

*Hafa Adai!*

Alter City outlines plans, eyes  
global theme parks.

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75¢

## Disjointed system fails the mentally ill

By JAYSON CAMACHO and FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTERS

About five years ago, Diego (not his real name) was arrested by police after he broke into a church on Saipan and damaged some items inside. He was soon brought to the Commonwealth Health Center's psychiatric ward after it was determined that he was suffering from a psychotic episode, with hallucinations and paranoia as his main symptoms.

See **DISJOINTED** on Page 4

### Fital to plead guilty in federal court on Wednesday



By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has set the change of plea hearing for former governor Benigno R. Fital at the

U.S. District Court for the NMI

on Wednesday morning.

Wiseman ordered Fital, his lawyer Stephen Nutting, and Office of the Public Auditor legal counsel George L. Hasselback and the CNMI government's representative to appear at the 11am hearing.

Wiseman ordered Fital to arrange and be present at a suitable facility in the Philippines that can facilitate a high quality

video/audition transmission for this procedure.

The judge directed Fital and Nutting to perform a test a day or more prior to the scheduled hearing and the results of the test to be reported to the court.

Fital's scheduled change of plea hearing last Wednesday, May 6, via Skype did not push through because of an audio

See **FITAL** on Page 4

### Kilili: Bill adds new condition before military can acquire land

The U.S. Defense Department is already barred from any major land acquisition anywhere in the United States without first getting specific approval by Congress and the President, enacted in law. But the military may soon face another hurdle. A provision in this year's National Defense Authorization Act will require the Secretary of Defense to consult with the governor of the state or commonwealth where the land is located to consider all the options for locating military installations and activities before going to Congress for permission.

See **KILILI** on Page 4

### HONORARY CONSUL

Philippine Consul General to Guam Marciano De Borja, left, administers the oath of office to Philippine honorary consul for the CNMI Glicerio Arago Friday at the Philippine Consulate General in Hagatna, Guam. As honorary consul, Arago can help process reports of birth and other documents for Philippine nationals in the Northern Mariana Islands, but not including passport renewals.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



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More than 16 sign up for Saturday's Taste of the Marianas pie-eating competition.

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#### LOCAL

The Saipan Flower and Ornamental Plants Festival returns after an absence of more than 10 years.

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#### LIFE & STYLE

The creator of "Friends" introduces 'Grace & Frankie' on Netflix.

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## Local

# Alter City outlines plans, eyes global theme parks

By JOEL D. PINAROC  
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REPORTER

Global theme parks, a “sky-bridge,” and a sprawling hotel and casino resort complex with a total of 6,000 hotel rooms, villas, and serviced apartments form part of the master plan of Macau-based Alter City Group for Tinian.

Representatives of the company, headed by its managing director Ken Lin, met with Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and other CNMI officials on Friday to present a check of \$1.2 million as partial payment for the firm’s major siting permit for its casino resort on Tinian.

According to Lin, the payment of the siting permit is “just the start” of developments for Alter City.

The executive added that from 200,000 square meters, the company is now looking to develop on 700,000 square meters of land it has leased with the government.

Lin said global theme parks such as LegoLand, Hello Kitty Land, and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Fox, and a “skybridge” connecting Tinian to other islands via an “aero bus” are all on the table for Alter City.

“From roughly 2,500 rooms, we are now planning for 6,000 rooms. We are also talking with airlines,” Lin said.

He said the construction of the hotel resort is planned for 12 years.

Payment of the siting fees is required by the CNMI through the Division of Coastal Resources Management office.

The company secured from the government last year a lease on a 152-hectare Tinian land.

The development is in three phases and includes the construction of hotel rooms, water



JOEL D. PINAROC  
Alter City Group managing director Ken Lin, second from left, presents a ceremonial check to government officials as payment for the group's application for a major siting permit on Tinian.

that Alter City will use as much materials from local sources, particularly in the building of foundations for the planned structures.

He said Alter City plans to apply for the QC program, adding that Alter City’s hotel and other facilities might be qualified.

## Concerns

Proposed military “live-fire” exercises on some parts of Tinian are a cause of concern for Alter City.

Lin said his group has been asked a number of times regarding the proposed military exercises. The executive said that, instead of a wait-and-see approach, “we decided as a team to move forward with the project.”

See ALTER CITY on Page 4

park, an 18-hole golf course, villas, casino facilities, and related tourism amenities.

In November 2014, a joint session of the Senate and the House of Representatives unanimously approved the public land lease. Alter City Group plans to build its casino resort at Puntan Diablo, also known as Nasarino, on Tinian.

## Qualifying certificate

Alter City also plans to apply for a qualifying certificate to enjoy tax breaks.

The CNMI government’s QC program offers tax-based investment incentives. However, casinos are not included on the list of potential investors for the QC program.

In the Senate, a bill was introduced last week proposing to amend Public Law 18-56 to include gaming companies to enjoy the tax breaks. Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R- Tinian) introduced the bill “to clarify” the QC program. The bill will be up for discussion.

Lin said the QC “can help us a lot in our import and export business.”

The executive said with a lot total of 700,000 square meters of construction in the next 10 to 12 years, there will be a lot of materials coming in.

“In the next 10 to 12 years, there will be a lot of materials coming in the CNMI. About 80 percent will be from China and Korea,” Lin said, noting

## EOD successfully deactivates Japanese sea mine

U.S. Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal technicians successfully deactivated Saturday a “Japanese sea mine JB Type 93” ordnance that was unearthed by a construction company that is clearing Best Sunshine International Ltd.’s leased public land in Garapan.

Safety officers from the Department of Public Safety and CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management assisted EOD technicians in ensuring the safety of persons and property at the construction site vicinity.

Press secretary Ivan Blanco

said an all-clear condition was given on Saturday at 6am after officials from EOD, DPS, and CNMI Homeland Security deactivated the old sea mine.

Blanco said the mine was deemed no longer a threat after four hours of removal operation, and the area in Garapan returned to its normal state.

Blanco said the discovery of the ordnance early last week temporarily halted work at the site, formerly known as the Samoan Housing Area.

He said the process to remove any hazardous risks

from moving the mine from the site required the closure of Cpl. Derence Jack Street and Beach Road in front of the site toward the Bank of Guam intersection as a precaution, and was carried out at a time where pedestrian traffic was absent.

After discovery of the sea mine, Best Sunshine immediately notified DPS, which then requested assistance from EOD team experts in the region. EOD’s Mobile Unit flew from Guam to Saipan on Thursday morning. (Ferdie de la Torre)



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# NMI govt eyeing own public hearings on draft EIS

By JOEL PINAROC  
joel\_pinaroc@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The CNMI government is planning to conduct its own public hearing on the draft environmental impact statement on proposed military exercises on Tinian and Pagan.

The U.S. Department of Defense had just finished a series of public hearings on the draft EIS in the CNMI.

"We plan to conduct our own public hearing," said Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres on Friday.

The official said the U.S. military will "still be invited."

"The last [public hearing] was by the military, but the CNMI will have its own hear-

ing, and let them watch how we do it," Torres said, adding that he is glad the CNMI community was able to "speak up" at the hearings.

The U.S. military held public hearings on Saipan and Tinian, and majority of the public comments opposed the proposed military exercises, particularly plans to conduct "live-fire" exercises.

The proposed plan to drop bombs on Pagan also apparently hit a raw nerve among the general populace, resulting in a resounding "no" to the plan.

Torres, meanwhile, said the government is set to meet with military representatives this week.

"Our lands do not grow. We have to support our lands, while still supporting the military. As we move forward, at the end of the day, the people should speak up, and they are speaking," Torres said.

## Concessions

The U.S. military earlier said it will start incorporating the public comments it had gathered on the draft EIS after conducting several public hearings.

According to Craig Whelden, executive director of the U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific, the military will look for ways to address the public's concerns and incorporate these concerns in the final EIS.

"We will collect all the public comments and we will incorporate them to the final EIS which will be released in July next year," Whelden said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

Most of the public comments at the hearings opposed any bombings on Pagan.

Whelden said one possible action that the military can include in the next EIS is reducing the area on Pagan where the "live-fire" exercises will be conducted.

Aside from reducing the target areas, the military can also assign the targets in areas where there is lava, to reduce the impacts of the bombing on the island's flora and fauna, he said.

Whelden said part of the proposed military exercises is to set up a volcano monitoring system on Pagan.

The official said the CNMI government's request for an extension of the review period of the draft EIS is still being studied, but a decision will be forthcoming this month.

The military held the first hearing on Saipan on April 29, followed by another on Tin-

ian on April 30, and the last on Saipan on May 1.

All of the hearings drew hundreds, and the common sentiment was opposition to the proposed military activities on Tinian and Pagan.

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## DISJOINTED

From Page 1

After three days at the hospital—the maximum amount of time that one can be committed at the psychiatric ward—Diego was let go. It appeared that he had improved, thanks in large part to the treatment he got at the hospital. However, once he was out again, he neglected his treatment and soon began exhibiting the behavior that got him in trouble in the first place. About a month later, he hanged himself.

An examination of how the Commonwealth takes care of its mentally ill shows a fragmented system that, instead of fostering a system of treatment, empowerment and inclusion, perpetuates a vicious cycle that have them cycling through the police, prison, the hospital, and then release, only to go through the same cycle again when their conditions worsen.

The problem becomes magnified when the individual's mental illness deteriorates to the point of violence, when families have no recourse or options on whom to approach for help.

Esther Muña, chief executive officer of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp told *Saipan Tribune* that in the event a person with mental illness becomes violent, the first recourse is to call the police.

"The Department of Public Safety is responsible for safety so they should be called. The people who are being violent have to be protected as well, so it's DPS and not CHCC's [responsibility]. When anyone is violent, you should call DPS or call 911. DPS will then determine if the patient needs to be brought to CHCC. Our staff may need to be protected too. We cannot care for individuals if our staff is in danger as well," she said.

### Cops lack training

DPS Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero said giving police this responsibility is also problematic since, as a law enforcement agency, DPS lacks sufficient training when it

comes to dealing with mentally ill individuals who are violent.

"Right now, honestly, our department I think is still ill-prepared to deal with these type of individuals," said Deleon Guerrero.

He said the question for police officers is how to confront a mentally ill individual who is being violent in a manner that subdues their violent behavior yet still respect their rights.

At the moment, Deleon Guerrero said the department is working with the Community Guidance Center on how to deal with mental issues.

"In particular, our focus right now is to see how we can align or leverage their counseling services for out law enforcement officers," he said.

Deleon Guerrero said they are looking at having someone at the CGC provide some kind of training or be able to access somebody who has the necessary skills to train CNMI police officers on how to deal with mentally ill people with violence tendencies.

The commissioner said there are certain triggering mechanisms that authorize them, for example, to bring an individual straight to a psychiatric ward.

"We usually bring them to the emergency room, and the doctor does the evaluation and admit them to 72-hour involuntary commitment. But whenever we do that, normally what has to happen is that somebody from the family has to sign off for that individual to be admitted at the psychiatric unit," he said.

Deleon Guerrero said they also exercise a degree of caution when it comes to dealing with these types of individuals.

"There's normally a lot of communications prior to just arresting them," he said.

He said whenever they bring such a person, for example, to the Department of Corrections, the next step would be to communicate with the prosecutor's office, and have the person brought before the court, which then determine whether or not that person should be brought to the hospital for psychiatric evaluation.

### A permanent solution

There appears to be no permanent solution, though. Once the person is released after the 72-hour hold at CHC, their treatment stops and they relapse again.

According to Muña, if a patient or person with mental illness is arrested, it will be the decision of the court whether to refer them to the hospital. If transferring custody of the patient to CHCC, a psychiatrist's evaluation is needed.

"We don't put involuntary hold unless the doctor orders otherwise. In other words, we just don't, because patients have their rights. Everybody has a civil right to be free. If people are admitted into the in-patient ward for psychiatric evaluation, it has to be for acute reasons," Muña said.

"Our obligation is if the patient is admitted by the order of the physician and that is if you're going to hold the patient for a 72-hour period it has to be justifiable. After the 72 hours, the patient has the right to walk away," she said.

Besides the lack of long-term options for treating a patient with mental illness, there are also no permanent psychiatrists at the hospital. Guam-based Dr. Laura Post visits once a week to provide psychiatric treatment.

"We do have a psychiatrist from Guam who comes weekly who can treat their conditions. We also have our 24/7 emergency room physicians that can obtain telephone consults from this psychiatrist on those days when she's not available until the psychiatrist returns and is able to provide a face-to-face evaluation and management," Muña said.

She said they are looking into providing full-time psychiatrists and are also working on reopening the Transitional Living Center for patients who have behavioral health issues.

"We feel that behavioral health, in order to treat it, we have to make it accessible and we need to provide it. We need to provide those services. Opening TLC is significant as it is where they can have ac-

cess to nursing care, and what activities will they have," Muna said.

Numbers and statistics of patients currently in the psychiatric ward is confidential.

### Who pays?

Muna said that Medicaid usually pays for these patients. Those who have Medicaid will often pay for acute care; however, it is a lot different for chronic care.

"They usually have Medicaid, probably or might also qualify for Social Security Income for disability. Medicaid, in my understanding, if they are SSI patients or recipients, Medicaid automatically renews them," Muña said.

### 'We are all the same'

James Rayphand, executive director of the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc., which advocates for all persons with disabilities, said the way they handle a person with mental illness depends on what the individual needs.

"We advocate for them to receive better treatment and not get abused or neglected. So we are basically the promoters of those who have mental health illnesses. We are all the same and basically those with mental illness, we aggressively advocate for them and work with other agencies as well," he said.

NMPASI legal counsel Jeanne Rayphand said that what their agency wants to see is the government to be fully trained in handling people with mental illness. She cited Kaye Christian's case as an example. When Christian was forcibly removed from her home on Rota two years ago, she filed a lawsuit against several government agencies and officials and later won a settlement agreement.

With Christian it wasn't about her mental illness, yet the government deemed otherwise when she was removed from her home. It was all about how she, as a patient with mental illness, was mistreated by the government and this led to a lawsuit and then a settlement agreement

for involuntary commitment back in 2011.

"You may see people with mental illness in the community, some walking around, because you don't want them to be deprived of their freedom," Jeanne Rayphand said.

She also noted that years back Dwayne Sibetang went to the hospital but was refused admission because of his mental illness. He then left the hospital and killed someone.

"The police and CHCC staff need to be trained and orga-

nized when it comes to treating or encountering a person with mental illness," Jeanne Rayphand said.

"Budget-wise, they need to have two full-time psychiatrists. Right now only one psychiatrists, Dr. Laura Post, visits the CHCC," she added.

Muña and Jeanne Rayphand, however, agree that there should be an effort between the community and agencies in forging and coordinating an action plan that will take care of patients with mental illness.

## ALTER CITY

From Page 2

Lin said Alter City representatives attended the public hearing on the draft environmental impact statement held on Tinian to air their concerns.

Alter City was the only investor present at the hearing, he said.

He emphasized that the company has nothing against the military, but the proposed live-fire exercises "might limit" the group's development, and its investments.

"We raised our concern because we are trying to build a

world-class, peaceful resort. Noise is one of our concerns," Lin said.

He said Alter City's partial payment of \$1.2 million affirms that company's commitment to continue to invest.

Lin, meanwhile, added that an open dumpsite in the leased area is also still a concern.

The executive said Alter City "will help in funding," but it still needs to work with the Tinian's Mayor Office to finalize plans to relocate the dump site.

Lin said the first phase of its resort casino is slated in the next three to four years, and the company does not want to build near a dumpsite.

## FITIAL

From Page 1

problem.

The 69-year-old Fitial is currently in the Philippines, where he is undergoing medical rehabilitation.

At Wednesday's change of plea hearing, the communication commenced and then began fading, which resulted in Fitial being unable to hear Wiseman. The Internet connection also phased out at least twice during the hearing.

In his order on Thursday setting the new change of plea hearing date, Wiseman said in view of the highly important dialog that must be conducted with Fitial for the hearing and the need for his full comprehension and participation in and to the proceedings, the technological equipment set up for communication was less than desirable to meet the standard of communication that the court deems necessary and appropriate.

Wiseman canceled the hearing last Wednesday and arranged for it to be held at the U.S. District Court for the NMI, which has superior telecommunication equipment for purposes of conducting video conferences.

Fitial and the CNMI government have submitted their plea agreement to court to resolve his criminal case without going to trial.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that Fitial, Nutting, Hasselback, and Chief Prosecutor Leonardo Rapadas signed the plea agreement.

Sources said Fitial may enter a guilty plea to two offenses: misconduct in public office and conspiracy to commit theft of

service.

The offense of misconduct in public office refers to Fitial's actions related to the temporary departure of a female prisoner from the Department of Corrections on Jan. 8, 2010.

The court already dismissed this charge, but sources said that under the plea agreement, the parties agreed to vacate the dismissal.

Conspiracy to commit theft of services charge refers to Fitial's role related to former Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham's efforts to evade lawful service of process during his departure from the Commonwealth at the Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport on Aug. 3 or 4, 2012.

The three other remaining charges against the former governor are two counts of misconduct in public office and a count of theft of services.

These remaining charges refer to alleged criminal activity associated with the police escort provided Buckingham in August 2012 that shielded him from being served with penal summons.

The government, through Hasselback, originally filed 13 criminal charges against Fitial.

Aside from the escape of a detainee and the shielding of Buckingham, the government also alleged two other incidents—misconduct in public office related to the award of a contract to former Commerce Secretary Michael Ada to perform services related to the use of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds in October 2010 and the execution of a power purchase agreement contract related to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. in August 2010.

## KILILI

From Page 1

"Last year, the House passed this same requirement that the Secretary of Defense consult with the state or commonwealth governor when acquiring land, so that local officials are fully involved in those decisions," said Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP).

"I took a close look, of course, because in the Northern Marianas we are all very sensitive about anything that has to do with the military and land.

"And I supported this provision last year, just as I support it this year.

"Because the more that the military is required to talk with local officials and look at all op-

tions, the better.

"In fact, after I included a requirement in report language for the 2014 Defense Authorization that the Secretary of the Air Force consult with the governor of the Commonwealth about the divert field location the military Air Force came up with the 'hybrid' option, which I understand the governor now has under consideration.

"Let me be very clear: The proposed consultation requirement in this year's Defense Authorization adds to existing law. Nothing is revoked. U.S. law still requires that Congress and the President enact a law before there can be any major land acquisition."

In addition, Covenant Section 806(b) also specifies that the U.S. will acquire no interest

in real property in the Northern Mariana Islands unless authorized by Congress and unless Congress also appropriates funds for the acquisition, Sablan pointed out.

Sablan also said he thought it was very unfortunate that public officials would put out misleading and incorrect information.

"We all have valid concerns about the military buildup and the draft environmental impact statement. Right now we need cool heads in leadership, not alarmists.

"But anyone who takes the time to read 10 U.S.C. 2664 or Section 2812 of H.R. 1735, this year's National Defense Authorization Act, will see that the proposed addition to the law actually strengthens, and does not 'undermine,' the position of



# Delayed SSHS windmill project an 'eyesore'—Sablan

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**  
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REPORTER

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan reiterates the call to get a stalled turbine project off Public School System property.

The dysfunctional windmills at Saipan Southern High School are an "eyesore" and create noise that generates "a lot of complaints from the community around it," according to Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero.

Sablan said the project was originally a \$10-million renewable energy project for public schools.

While other projects have gone forward, the project at

Saipan Southern High appears to be the "only defective one," she said.

"They built on our property because we endorsed non-renewable energy," she told *Saipan Tribune*. "If they install something that doesn't work" then they should "get it off our property."

The company working on the project had missed the March 31, 2015, deadline. According to the commissioner, this was one of the several project extensions given to the company.

Guerrero said around that time that if the company is "not going to work [on it], then perhaps they need to remove the equipment from our property,

because it's just going to create problems for us later on."

As reported in 2011, the Division of Energy gave PSS approximately \$2.4 million from the \$6.5 million it received from the U.S. Department of Energy for Renewable projects for the completion of this project.

The project was awarded to Pacific Green Integrated Technology Inc. and Pacific Wind & Solar LLC in September 2010.

PSS is not the expenditure or contracting authority for the project; it's the Division of Energy.

Both Sablan and Guerrero said the Attorney General's Office is looking into the matter.

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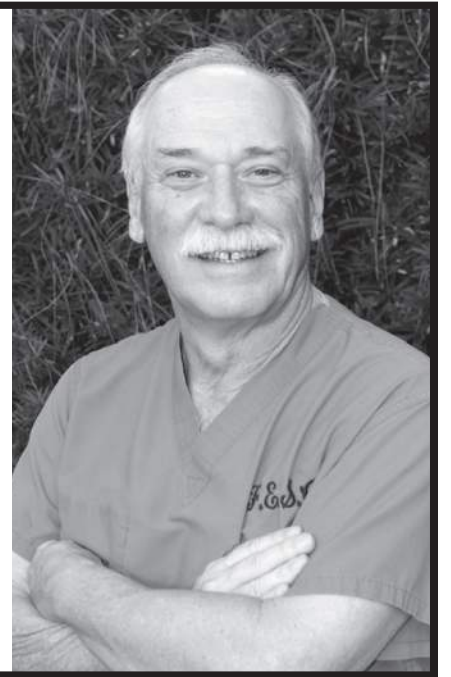
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**Kia Soul LX** retail price \$18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$300.90 or \$138.88 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$18,054.00.  
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# Judge orders return of limo, two buses to Mode Tour

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio vacated on Friday her writ of execution order and directed the court's Marshal Service Division to return to Mode Tour Saipan its limousine and two buses parked in the court's parking lot.

Following the order, Mode Tour Saipan on Friday afternoon took back their three vehicles—a Lincoln Town Car with license plate ACG-547 and two Ford E-450 Super Duty with license plates BUS-275 and BUS-1263.

The Marshal Service Division seized the three vehicles last April 30, along with a 2013 Toyota Sienna van, pursuant to

Kim-Tenorio's order in connection with a court's jury verdict that found the company and its parent company in South Korea liable to pay \$2.3 million in damages to the widow and estate of a Korean tourist who drowned during a cliff fishing tour at Dump Coke on Tinian in 2008.

The Marshal Service brought the four vehicles to the parking lot of the Judiciary complex in Susupe.

In that writ, Kim-Tenorio also ordered the Marshal Service to sell the vehicles for the benefit of plaintiffs Jung Su An, Eun Ju Jun, and Ho Chan Jung.

At an emergency hearing last Wednesday, May 6, Kim-Teno-

rio ordered the release of the van and the removal from the court's parking lot of the limousine and the two buses.

The judge ordered the return of the van to its registered owner, Soon Hwa Kim, after she showed proof that she owns the van and not Mode Tour.

In her order on Friday, Kim-Tenorio ordered that all properties and assets seized in levying the writ of execution be returned to its former owners and possessors as if the applications for writs were never issued by the court.

Kim-Tenorio ordered the Marshal Service Division to return the three vehicles to their

registered owners by the end of the day on Friday.

On Thursday, Kim-Tenorio denied the plaintiffs' application for writ of execution. Attorney Colin Thompson filed the application last Tuesday, May 5, as counsel for plaintiffs.

Kim-Tenorio said the plaintiffs' proposed writs of execution do not comply with the law.

"Plaintiffs' failure to comply with the court's orders by May 8, 2015 at 12pm, will leave the court no choice but to vacate all pending writs of execution as issued in this matter," Kim-Tenorio said.

In addition, she noted that several concerns regarding the writs of execution as currently issued raised at the emergency hearing on May 5

were not incorporated in the instant application.

For example, the judge said, plaintiffs erroneously claim that they are entitled to judgment up to \$2.1 million from Mode Tour Saipan Corp.

Kim-Tenorio said in her order, the fault assigned to decedent was at the percentage of 20 percent and therefore reducing the damages award accordingly.

In plaintiffs' application for a writ last May 5, Thompson asked the court to issue the writ of execution against Mode Tour Saipan's personal bank accounts and the company's vehicles.

Thompson said as of March 19, 2015, Mode Tour Saipan Corp. and Mode Tour Network Inc. have failed to make any payments toward the \$2.1 million in damages.

Last Feb. 4, jurors reached a unanimous verdict, finding Mode Tour Network Inc. and Mode Tour Saipan Corporation negligent, causing the accidental death of Hoseung Jung.

The jurors attributed 90 percent of fault to Mode Tour Network Inc. and 10 percent fault to Mode Tour Saipan Corp.

The jurors awarded \$500,000 to Jung's mother, Jung Su An, for mental pain and suffering. They awarded \$1.8 million to Jung's estate for pecuniary injury.

Kim-Tenorio presided over the trial. Thompson served as counsel for mother Jung Su An, widow Eun Ju Jun, and

brother Ho Chan Jung, who served as personal representative of the decedent.

The plaintiffs brought a wrongful death action and for negligent infliction of emotional distress on the part of the widow against Mode Tour Network Inc., Mode Tour Saipan Corp., and Jae Min Corporation.

Thompson stated in the complaint that in December 2008, Jun and her husband Joung traveled to the CNMI to spend their honeymoon following their wedding in Korea.

Thompson said through their consultation with Mode Tour Network, the couple booked a cliff fishing tour when they visited Tinian. The tour guides took the couple and six other Korean tourists to a site popularly called Dump Coke, a fishing area located at a remote and rural part of Tinian, where Jung accidentally drowned.

In defendants Mode Tour Network's and Mode Tour Saipan's documents filed in court, attorney Thomas Clifford said Mode Tour Network Inc. is merely a wholesaler of package tours in Korea, and that it's only connection to the accident is that it sold a tour package that included a visit to Tinian.

Clifford said Mode Tour Network did not sell the optional tour to the couple and it would never have received any money from their decision on Tinian to participate in the optional tour.

## CUC aims to better explain LEAC charge

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**  
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. aims to better explain to customers the LEAC, or levelized energy adjustment clause, in their bills each month by renaming this as the "fuel adjustment clause."

On top of this, they have put out pamphlets in English, Chamorro, and Carolinian to explain this rate. One pamphlet reads "Hafa LEAC?"

LEAC is one of two components of a customer's power bill. LEAC is used for fuel purchases. The second rate component is the electric base rate, which is used to fund operations, projects, and debt repayment.

Georgetown Consulting Group called the pamphlets "an excellent first step" in a public hearing and workshop last Thursday.

At the hearing, CUC consultant Robert Young said these efforts stem from how this was a "technically-laden" industry and how English is not always the primary language in the CNMI.

He also said a "point of change" was when former governor Juan N. Babauta asked

what was the LEAC charge he had to pay.

In order to do a better job of explaining its rates, CUC aims to change the LEAC charge to "fuel-adjustment clause."

He said other utilities have used the word "fuel" in their charges, and clarified this was just a name change.

Georgetown consultant Larry Gawlik said there has not been "sufficient transparency" about what this rate is about.

Georgetown Consulting agrees that the rate name should "connotate what the charge is about."

However, in a written report to the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, the consulting group argued that LEAC name be kept because, among others, that energy costs would be included in future LEAC rates.

CUC counsel James Sirok said, though, that 85 to 90 percent of the charges in the LEAC were "fuel-related."

He also said that Georgetown Consulting's opinion regarding how much CUC customers understand the rate is "based on speculation."

"We hear from customers on a daily basis. We have a factual basis," he said.



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# 'DFW officers can't probe drug cases, no authority to impound cars'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_deltorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Conservation officers of the Division of Fish and Wildlife cannot investigate drug cases and have no legal authority to impound a vehicle, according to Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho.

Camacho said the CNMI Legislature limited the powers of DFW officers and what they can investigate.

The judge said DFW conservation officers can assist Department of Public Safety police officers but do not have general police powers like DPS officers.

Camacho discussed DFW's authority in his order on Friday that granted Angelo Ignacio C. Villagomez's motion to suppress the contents of his black pouch and any evidence found during a DFW search.

Camacho, however, did not suppress the gill net and fish in the bed of the truck and the receipts and other items in plain view in the cabin of Villagomez's pickup truck.

DFS officers arrested Villagomez, a fisherman, last Dec. 15 for allegedly fishing using a gill net at a Lau Lau Beach dive spot.

Villagomez, through assistant public defenders Eden Schwartz and Michael Sato, moved to suppress evidence. Assistant attorney general Clayton Graef, as counsel for the government, opposed.

According to court records, DFW conservation officer Erwin Flores testified at a March 25, 2015, hearing about the events on the night of Dec. 15, 2014.

DFW received a call from a concerned citizen, reporting that Villagomez fishes at Lau

Lau Beach using a gill net, and selling the fish and using the proceeds to buy methamphetamine or "ice."

Flores said a special type of permit is required to use a gill net, and the fish caught is typically intended for large community events.

The concerned citizen also reported that Villagomez would bring a .22 rifle with him to Lau Lau Beach.

Flores investigated this tip and did a surveillance operation on Dec. 9, 12, and 15, 2014.

On Dec. 9 and 12, Flores saw Villagomez using the gill net at Lau Lau Beach. On Dec. 15, his third surveillance, Flores, aboard an unmarked DFW vehicle, watched Villagomez finish fishing at Lau Lau Beach and load his equipment into his truck.

As Villagomez was leaving the beach, Flores drove up behind the defendant in an unmarked vehicle, while two marked DFW vehicles stopped the defendant's truck from behind with a flashlight.

Flores said he saw a gill net with fish in the bed of the truck and then told the defendant he was under arrest and pulled him from the cab of the truck.

Flores advised the defendant of his rights, then the defendant was secured in the back seat of one of the marked DFW vehicles.

After this, Flores inspected the interior of the truck's cab, where he found receipts from two fish markets, some of which were inside the center's console. These receipts showed that fish had been sold

to these markets, but not how they were caught or by whom.

In addition, Flores found Q-tips, a needle/wire, lighters, and a pipe wrapped in a tissue that appeared to have a controlled substance on it.

In his order, Camacho said unreasonable searches and seizures are prohibited under both the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and Article 1, Section 3 of the CNMI Constitution.

Camacho said the Commonwealth Legislature has expressly limited the powers of conservation officers to enforcing violations of the Fish, Game, and Endangered

Species Act.

"Although the DFW director may enlist the assistance of DPS officers, this does not necessarily mean that DFW conservation officers may in turn act as DPS officers," the judge said.

Camacho said Flores was correct in investigating Villagomez for using an illegal gill net but conducting a search of the suspect's car for controlled substances was beyond the scope of his authority.

Camacho noted that DPS was not involved in this case at all.

The judge noted that although the tip provided indicated that there were controlled substance and firearm elements in this case, Flores did not reach out to DPS for

assistance.

Since the gill net and fish were in plain view, Camacho said that Flores had the authority to seize them and this evidence will not be suppressed.

Although the pouch itself was visible within the cabin of the vehicle, Camacho said that opening the pouch to inspect its contents constitutes a separate search.

"Thus, the contents of the pouch must be suppressed," he said.

Camacho said a conservation officer's authority is limited solely to conservation issues, and does not extend to drug enforcement.

On impounding vehicles, Camacho said Flores testified that there are no standard im-

pound procedures at DFW.

Camacho said that based on the statute, DFW has no authority to impound any vehicles at all, even if they were involved in violation of the Fish, Game and Endangered Species Act.

"Any evidence obtained during this inventory search must be suppressed, as DFW had no legal authority to impound a vehicle," he said.

Last month, Camacho suppressed all the statements made by Villagomez while in custody. The judge determined that nothing indicates what exact rights the defendant was advised of, nor is there any testimony indicating that he had acknowledged that he understood these rights.



Camacho

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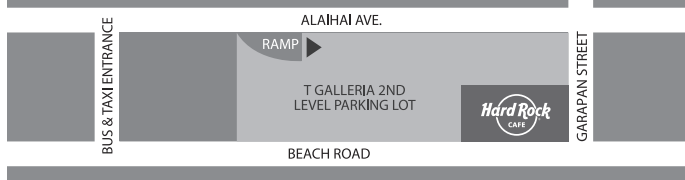
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# Man'amkó team up with the manhoben in concert

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA  
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REPORTER

The *man'amkó* were joined for the first time by the *manhoben* from the San Antonio Community Action Network last Friday for their first ever concert at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

The center was filled with music, chanting, and laughter as the seniors displayed their talent to their fellow seniors, youth and other guests.

The concert was one of the activities lined up in celebration

A group of elderly women perform a song as part of Friday's concert at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA



of Older Americans Month/Mes Man'Amkó this May.

"It's great to see the elders with the youth joined together to perform. I've seen a lot of talent that I've never seen before," said Walter Manglona, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Aging Office director.

The program started off with a performance of the *man'amkó* band headed by Jess Pangelinan.

At 72, Pangelinan plays the lead guitar and is also the band's vocalist. They played three songs including *Pretty Woman*.

"We've been preparing for a couple of weeks. I've been looking forward to this event every year," Pangelinan said.

Also among the performers was a group of women that sang a Chuukese song.

For the second part of the program, the youth entertained the seniors with various song and dance numbers. The San Antonio youth performers and members of Uncle Ben's Dance Studio and Educational Services took over the show with exhibitions of Zumba and ballroom dancing.

Star Angels and Voice Fest champion Gio Sagana and Mica Ellasume also sang for the elderly.

For the finale, the seniors strutted their stuff with a mini-fashion show that featured native clothes from Chuuk as well as Carolinian, Japanese and Filipino cultures, includ-

ing mestiza, Maria Clara and traditional Muslim clothes from the Philippines.

Saipan Senior Association Council president Maria T. Salinas, who was one of the models, wore a dress representing the old Chamorro mestiza culture.

"I'm actually pretty impressed with the turnout. We've seen a lot more people today than we usually do, thanks to the San Antonio Community Action Network," Manglona said.

During the program, the SACAN presented the seniors with proceeds from selling tickets to the concert. A total of \$440 worth of tickets was sold.

"I really appreciate joining with the *man'amkó* and having this concert a success. This is part of our mission to find a way where we can be of help to both the youth and the adults. It's not only for San Antonio but the community at large in the Commonwealth," SACAN chair Pedro Castro said.

He hopes to find additional funds to do more activities for both the young and old as well as be able to join the seniors in their concert every year.

"We organize funding opportunities so the youth can come in and act more responsible toward helping one another," said Castro. "Hopefully this partnership will go through and we hope to have this on a yearly basis."

## PSS to present, justify budget

By DENNIS B. CHAN  
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REPORTER

The budget hearing for the Public School System's fiscal year 2015-2016 spending plan is set for May 27, according to Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan.

The legislative hearing is where they present and "justify" their budget, according to the commissioner.

She told *Saipan Tribune* she would be working on this presentation this week.

Some areas of funding include the need to replace teachers who are leaving or retiring, she said.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos allocated \$36.45 million for PSS in his budget proposal, which now sits with the Legislature. This is equivalent to 25 percent of total general fund resources guaranteed to PSS in the wake of the passage of House Legislative Initiative 18-12.

PSS had asked for \$42 million. In fiscal year 2014-2015, PSS got \$34.33 million.

In their budget submission for fiscal 2016, PSS requested \$31.478 million for personnel, \$3.94 million for "all others," \$260,000 for two new buses; deferred maintenance costs of \$1 million, outstanding utility debt at \$3.7 million, \$700,000

for classroom materials and instruction, \$400,000 in debt service to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, as well as \$420,000 for the Office of the Public Auditor.

Meanwhile, PSS has yet to hear from the Office of the Attorney General on a letter they sent asking for legal interpretation on sections of the CNMI Constitution regarding revenue sources set aside for public schools.

As of last week, they are still waiting for a reply or acknowledgement of the letter, according to Sablan.

Essentially, PSS and the Board of Education are asking if the budget they receive should be taken from the government's total revenue resources, or from the net amount like it is done now.

BOE chair Herman Guerrero earlier explained that the governor identified some \$180 million in total resources. "By the time they start deducting for commitments, you are saddled with \$140 million for appropriations," he said. "So we are asking if it is the net [amount] or the total amount [that PSS] budget should be taken from?"

The question is, what is the intent of the Constitution," he had said.

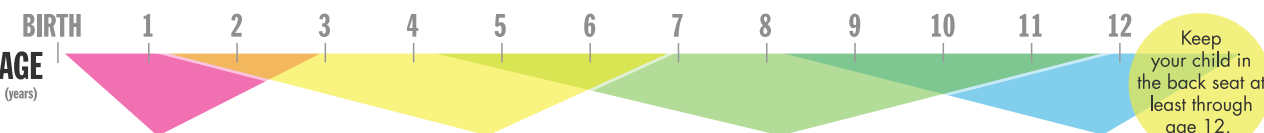
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- To maximize safety, keep your child in the car seat for as long as possible, as long as the child fits within the manufacturer's height and weight requirements.
- Keep your child in the back seat at least through age 12.



#### REAR-FACING CAR SEAT

Your child under age 1 should always ride in a rear-facing car seat. There are different types of rear-facing car seats: Infant-only seats can only be used rear-facing. Convertible and 3-in-1 car seats typically have higher height and weight limits for the rear-facing position, allowing you to keep your child rear-facing for a longer period of time.

#### FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT

Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It's the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness.

#### BOOSTER SEAT

Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat.

#### SEATBELT

Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For a seat belt to fit properly the lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snug across the shoulder and chest and not cross the neck or face. Remember: your child should still ride in the back seat because it's safer there.

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A **SEAT BELT** should lie across the upper thighs and be snug across the shoulder and chest to restrain the child safely in a crash. It should not rest on the stomach area or across the neck.



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<b>MAY</b> <b>19-22</b> <b>Substance Abuse Prevention Skills Training (SAPST)</b> <b>10 Available</b>	<b>MAY</b> <b>20</b> <b>What is Addiction? and Substance Abuse Recovery: Recovery Coach (AM)</b> <b>Invitation Only</b> <b>Stress Management Workshop (PM)</b> <b>25 Available</b>	<b>MAY</b> <b>21-22</b> <b>Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)</b> <b>Invitation Only</b>	<b>MAY</b> <b>21</b> <b>SafeTALK Training</b> <b>30 Available</b>	<b>MAY</b> <b>22</b> <b>SafeTALK Training</b> <b>Invitation Only</b>
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# Opinion

Hafa Adair!

## Saipan Tribune

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## EDITORIAL

### Al Jazeera America's struggles reveal need for dramatic reset

**B**ack in November, we welcomed Al Jazeera America's plan for a thoughtful and more serious approach to news coverage, in contrast to the flashy graphics and loud confrontation dominating other cable news channels. We promised to revisit the network's experiment in six months, which happens to coincide with Al Jazeera America's grappling with a management implosion.

The network's internal problems might only be a sideshow to the real reasons why the American public still hasn't latched on to the Al Jazeera brand. Part of the network's unpopularity—nightly viewership has dropped to only around 30,000 viewers—is probably rooted in lingering distrust of a news product funded by an Arab government.

Another part is the network's obscurity, nestled deep in a cable television menu where much bigger news channels, including CNN, FoxNews and MSNBC, had a big head start competing for viewers' attention.

Al Jazeera America is struggling particularly hard this week to salvage its reputation amid coverage of staffers' allegations of harassment. Senior managers have walked out in protest over the allegedly heavy-handed leadership of chief executive Ehab al-Shahabi. Now, Al-Shahabi is resigning.

Marcy McGinnis, who was the senior vice president for news, quit on Monday, citing a "culture of fear" in the workplace. Another staffer, in a lawsuit, has alleged anti-Semitism, sexism and retribution against staffers who challenged management decisions. Such allegations have yet to be proven, but when they arise in the context of an Arab-owned network trying to appeal to a Western audience, the damage could be insurmountable.

Primetime news anchor John Siegenthaler asked us in November to look past the network's Qatari government ownership and pledged that the news staff would jealously protect the traditions of journalistic independence followed by other government-supported networks such as PBS and the BBC.

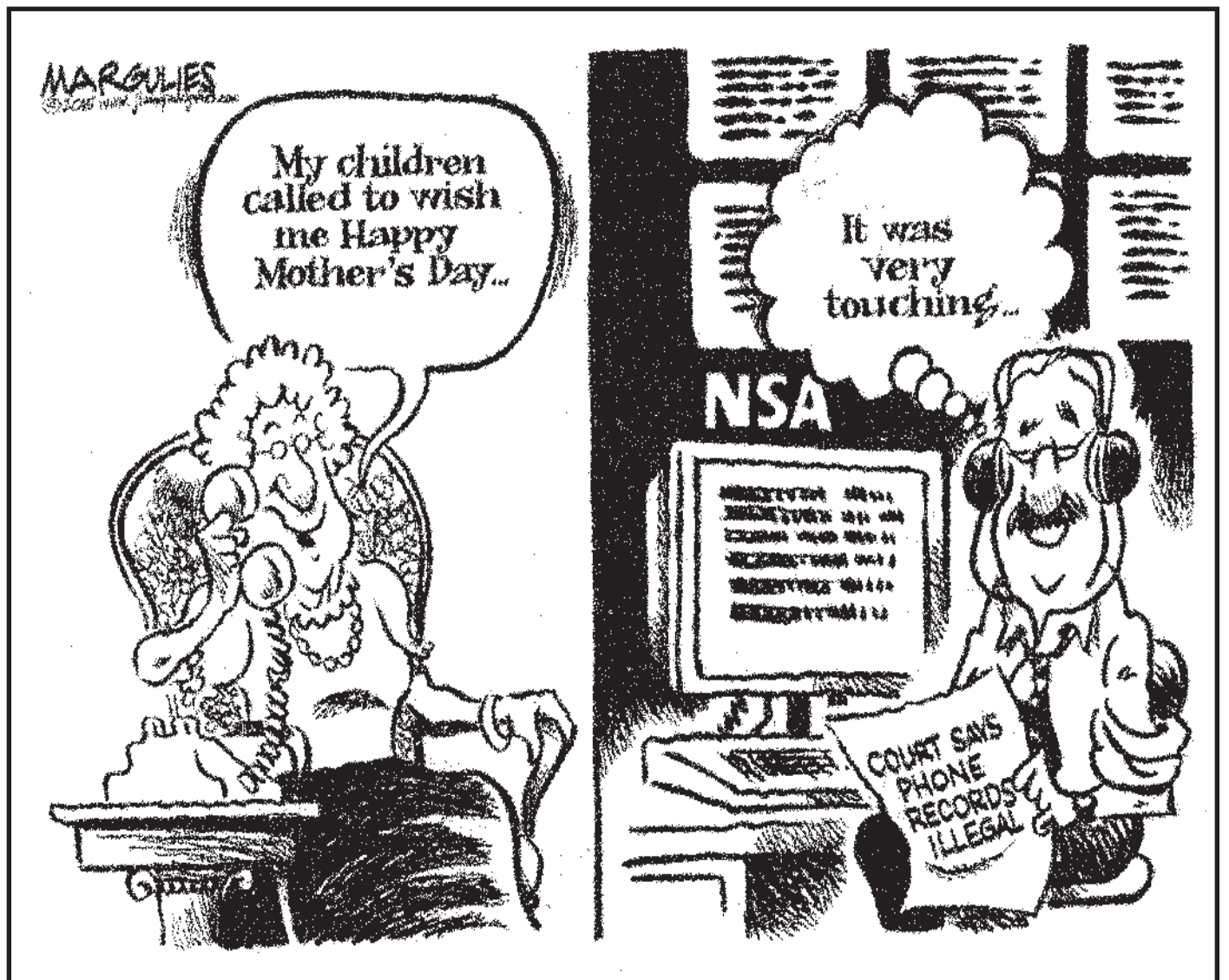
Indeed, Qatari government influence on Al Jazeera America's coverage is very hard to detect. The network tackles topics that rarely get television airtime in the Arabian Peninsula, such as Siegenthaler's discussion of gay issues with actor George Takei.

If anything, though, the effort to appear even handed and avoid entanglement—particularly in Middle Eastern controversy—has left Al Jazeera America with a news product that often emerges as safe, dry and sometimes even dull.

Considering that C-SPAN, which is about as sedate as a network can get, manages to attract around 47 million viewers a week, we remain convinced that a sizable segment of the American population prefers its news and current events coverage without shouting analysts, screaming headlines and constantly scrolling news alerts.

Al Jazeera America might still survive, but it's definitely due for a new image, more sensitive executive management and injection of energy to gain a wider marketing appeal.

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## Earth on Mother's Day

**A**stronaut Edgar Mitchell of Apollo 14 waxed poetic: *Suddenly, from behind the rim of the moon, in long, slow-motion moments of immense majesty, there emerges a sparkling blue and white jewel, a light, delicate sky blue sphere laced with slowly swirling veils of white, rising gradually like a small pearl in a thick sea of black mystery. It takes more than a moment to fully realize this is Earth...home.*

The earthrise photo became the central mythological symbol of promise and hope surrounding my early adulthood. Apollo 8 took the picture and shared it with a world at the time enmeshed in the Vietnam War, but the Earth (photo enhanced by Apollo II) becoming my mother widened my lines of allegiances!

On this Mother's Day (across the International dateline), I am a few decades late in recognizing the damage we have inflicted on Mama Gaia. Feeling sorry for the neglect will not restore her health, regardless of how resilient we consider her to be, but realizing that our humanity is tied to a breathing organism treated heretofore as "lifeless," it matters; it makes us realize that we can decide to fend for our survival as humans in the context of an organism kept alive and healthy.

We are children of evolution. My head has gotten bigger as we focus existence more on the complexity of the cerebrum and its cortex more than we do on the cerebellum and the medulla oblongata; on thoughts more than feelings and senses, on cognition with words, pictures and numbers more than impulse and intuition with gestures and explosions, nor do we even pay heed to what we experience in sight, sound, smell, taste and touch. Ours has been a culture that perennially asks: How does that make you feel?

Big Bird on Sesame Street went before the Bird Supreme Court to test a bird law on "losers' weepers, finders' keepers" when in his absence his abode was taken over and claimed by another bird. The court, adhering to the cold letter of the law, decided on the letter of the law but was asked by Big Bird how they "felt" if they were in his shoes, shifting the discourse from cognition to intuition.

I brook no ill against reason and logic as operational principles until they become masters of societal behavior rather than servants to decision-making processes. For example, many deny the reality of climate change, even in high government offices.

I traveled in the last five years across plains, rivers, landscapes and mountains, of Inner Mongolia and *Dong Bei*, Sichuan and Chiang Jiang, Canada's Banff, CA's Bay Area and Chicago's windy city, Honolulu's skyline and Manila's smog, and the lagoon shores of Saipan, and I know of the erratic nature of weather being the rule more than the exception. Friends in the U.S. northeast to Texas' Southwest attest that Mother Gaia is showing symptoms of a midlife crisis.

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at [pinoypanda2031@aol.com](mailto:pinoypanda2031@aol.com).



The awareness of climate change is really not the issue but the impingement of the reality on our behavior and our active acknowledgment of it. As simple as discarding plastic wrappers that take 10,000 years to decompose alerts us to our propensity worldwide to throw away as if someone is assigned to pick up after our droppings and make it evaporate. I picked up a discarded milk carton at the flagpole of the American Memorial Park the other day.

In China, someone is assigned to tidy up every square foot of public space. On the way to the airport one snowy early morning this March, a lady swept her assigned 100 meters on an elevated highway in the winter cold with the white stuff still on the ground.

We are a throwaway society. My mother did the reverse. She recycled. The only problem was that her neighbors thought she was the designated recycler of their discards. So her room in Honolulu was always full of "junk."

Saving Planet Earth is a favored shibboleth. The earthrise photo is a favored image; saving it is an outlook accompanying prints in various languages. Whether we are doing something to keep it healthy and clean is another matter. That is more than just keeping the country club lawn mowed, and the golf course putting greens trimmed. *Beautify CNMI* goes beyond just picking up people's trash along the lagoon shores.

Systemic degradation of the planet abounds in private and public practice for the sake of the quick green buck. World investments just hit gold in Pinoy mines! Mercury in the riverbeds will increase. Effluents feed the algae in our lagoon. The indigene community is sidestepped in the burial grounds' sanctity at the proposed casino site currently under construction in Garapan.

We've harped on the short-term preoccupation of Keystone XL pipes for Alberta tar sands. We frack shale, burn coal, dam waters upsetting ecological balance, and desperate souls of a slowly dying fossil fuel trade funds lobbies, written up in the press where the media practices journalism.

A Korean tourist on Saipan wore a T-shirt: "it's the only one we're got; love it". I hasten to add: the Mother and her children!



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR****Best method for CNMI's marijuana industries**

As the CNMI prepares to open the doors to a new industry, it is critical that we use the right kind of “locks on the doors” (governance system of controls) in order to control everything going on behind those doors and to keep abuse and crime out! Due to the importance of this issue, I have researched every major aspect and most of the nuances to legalization and there are only two options for the application of the marijuana industry, which are public and private, meaning a government operation or a private sector operation.

First, readers need to know the marijuana industry is actually four industries: medical, recreational, products, and industrial). A marijuana industry under the control of the government will have fewer licensing problems and less crime, better controls and monitoring policies than a private sector operation. A private sector industry will require hundreds and even thousands of licenses that will also need to be monitored by the government. However, with a government operation there will not be a need to license every individual and operation in the entire industry, only requiring the issuance of permits for private citizens to cultivate and a license to the tourist's dispensaries that will only be at the hotels/resorts that apply. The government will also run its own state or government stores for tourists and public sales.

A government operation will not have to worry about collecting taxes and schemes to avoid taxes like Colorado experienced. Unlike Colorado, which only collected 7 to 8 percent in taxes depending on the activity, the CNMI will reap at a minimum 75 percent of all the profits with the other 25 percent going to operation expenses and profit sharing with the hotel dispensaries and government-contracted cultivators. But a private operation will only provide tax revenues to the CNMI and even that will be challenging to collect as there is no way the CNMI can hold private cultivators and dispensaries accountable for every ounce grown and purchased. But even with controls and collection challenges, Colorado's government made over \$100 million from taxes, a \$1.3-billion increase in tourist dollars, and businesses still made hundreds of millions solely from the side-effects of full legalization (more tourists, more flights and transportation activity, more hotel and restaurant revenues and the list goes on). The CNMI's government model is better in all the categories and more lucrative for the government than the private sector model. The CNMI can easily become the future model and the envy of other states that only get taxes.

Under a government operation, tourists will not be put in a situation to be ripped off and even robbed as they can get their marijuana at their hotel dispensary or from a reputable government (state) store. Under a government operation we will also never have to worry about children being able to purchase marijuana at a state store. But under the private sector we know there will be dispensaries that will buy their supply from unlicensed growers and sell to our youth, along with criminals preying on tourists to sell their marijuana or to rob them. If the private sector will violate the law for small cigarette money, just think about the big money in marijuana and the organized crime that will be created in the private sector. We can't let this industry rely on trust in the private sector as we can't monitor everything and there is just too much money involved and temptation will surely prevail to manipulate a private sector system.

Under a government operation very little will change within the villages as locals will still be able to grow and barter but not sell. There will also be restrictions on how much a person can grow and transport for bartering purposes. People will be expected to grow their own personal marijuana or purchase it from a state store. Medical permits for growing will allow for more marijuana than recreational permits and there will also be limitations on where you can grow. For controlling the money, all sales collections will go to government coffers first for audit purposes and private dispensaries will receive their marijuana from the government. The dispensaries will be refunded their share that they must pay gross receipt taxes on. Illegal sales, especially to tourists, will still be a felony that will be enforced by local and federal authorities. Under the private sector, controls will be loose, businesses will make all the money and no bartering or unlicensed sales within the villages as it would infringe on the rights of the businesses who have paid for a license to sell.

Under a government operation, there will be a need for internal controls (policies) as a government operation and licensing the dispensaries that will get their marijuana from a government contracted (local) cultivators who can become very rich. The private sector will have to get its marijuana from a variety of sources that will need to be licensed and monitored closely, which is really impossible. In Colorado four dispensaries were busted by the feds for purchasing their marijuana from Mexican cartels who were not licensed growers. As you can see there will

be crime under the private sector that will surely bring in the feds as it did in Colorado.

Under a government operation the use of products can be better controlled as the government will be the only distributor. Locals will also have the opportunity to create marijuana products without having to compete with outside products being shipped in unless they are approved by the government. Heck, who knows, some local(s) may come up with a real winner that we can export. Under the private sector the government will have to spend money to certify monitor and control the products that will be produced or imported, creating more competition for local products.

As for the industrial industry of hemp marijuana, the total production and sales for hemp marijuana should be with the private sector, with the government only collecting taxes and export duties on products. Hemp does not get you high and there is no personal use interest in hemp except for the products. Hemp will become an industry in itself especially if we have some aggressive locals who are willing to put the work into the industry and create marketable products. I just hope we don't keep expecting outside investors to come in and do everything for us. Locals just need to be more aggressive and willing to chase the American Dream right here in the CNMI but our leaders need to set the conditions for the people to prosper first.

Henry Ford invented a car fender superior to metal and plastic from hemp that did not break or bend when hit with a sledgehammer but hemp was illegal so the fender never saw the light of day. Hemp products offer billions to be made from a totally virgin market with an endless line of products just waiting to be developed and sold. Chances like this only come once in your lifetime!

In conclusion and to make it simple, a government operation will have better and fewer controls. Under the government we will have the opportunity to make hundreds of million more than any state that has legalized pot and our government operation will be the envy of other states. Instead of dragging on and complaining about the CNMI's history with America, it is time the CNMI started making some new American history with the first government operation to institute the legalization of marijuana.

**Ambrose M Bennett**  
*Kagman, Saipan*

**‘Economic development’ and what it means**

Lately, in speeches, news reports, news releases, conversations, and intellectual expressions and discourses coming from all sectors of our NMI community, in particular by our elected and appointed officials, they never missed referencing on “economic development” as their center of attention. I asked one of our elected gatekeepers what “economic development” is and whether such concepts really make agreeable consensus between speaker and hearer that it actually has concrete and definitive meaning. After allowing my dear elected gatekeeper to declare his thoughts and understanding, it became obvious to me that talking the talk about “economic development” and what it means is problematic because if some of our elected and appointed officials could not come to grips with the basics of what the concept stands for, could you imagine how many of our ordinary people have good understanding what “economic development” is? Hence, I thought this would be a good point of reference for discussion.

The word “development” in the context of the social, political, and economic conditions and situations is indeterminate. If you express the word development as an adjective as in “development economics” you would have a totally different connotation. If you specify an adjective before the word development as in “economic development,” yet again an expansive subject matter and still in present modern times we continue arguing in theories and practices what single meaning all human efforts and interactions could draw to bear. Ordinary person would find solutions to meaning by separating words as in “economic” and “development” in economic development. If the word “development” is hard enough to define, and in this case I am suggesting it is indeterminate, could you imagine what results would manifest clearly and precisely by the use and meaning of the word “economic”? And, then it seems that “economic development” would refer to an “economy” that is bounded and place-centered community where it is situated by its own confined boundary. So, in reference to the NMI, do we expect our elected and appointed officials in our Commonwealth government that their convention and

thought processes about “development,” “economic,” and “economy” are universal and represent the common language of the general ordinary population of the NMI community?

Economics is often referred to as the dismal science because it deals with inescapable limitations and hardships of human existence and interactions confronting a specific economy. Hence, economics is not the science of allocating plentiful resources; it ruminates instead on the allocations of short or limited supplies of resources. In the NMI, the resources that we have may include the land, the indigenous people, the sea, and the sun, and our history of these islands.

In economics terms, we try to live within our own sweat, driven by such particular circumstances. We learned or have knowledge about economics in order to face or be reminded about facts of hardships and scarcity. In my childhood years, I remember real well how my late father would manage to feed us for supper with a pound of meat stew loaded with green vegetables. Such scarcity and sweat force resulted in satisfying our nutritional needs. And we had on many occasions resorted to this means in order to make good of what we had. When opportunity, hope, and the possibility of the good life regulate in light of real limitations, the desire to survive is no small part of what we meant by “economics.”

It is at the intersection of hardship and opportunity that economics takes on its human significance. It is here that the economy becomes important to ordinary people. So, economics is all about hardship and opportunity. And where as long as one does not use more than he/she has, economics is serving its human purpose. This blends well with what “economy” is all about.

The economy is placed or located within a specific boundary and consists of producing and consuming actors, all interacting in many diverse and endless ways addressing the human conditions. The Greek root for the word “economy” is “oikos,” which means “household.” Under Greek terms, economics is the art of household management. In this sense, the relationship of hardship and opportunity within the particular bounded setting of a specific household

which we can construe as “the economy.” When we talk about the NMI economy, we are simply saying the confines of the CNMI islands. Although, we are connected to a global economy or the national economy of the U.S., our economy only refers to the bounded areas of the NMI and should be the natural locus of economics.

A large part of our habitation of these islands is economics. It is a matter of recognizing that a particular place is the “household” that must be managed. The interplay of scarcity and possibility that we call the “economics” may unfold itself. The development aspects of our economy may refer to the concerted actions and policy interventions by policy makers and players in our community that promote the standard of living and economic stability of our bounded region. Development also signify in many ways the changes being forced and regulated in the economy such as the human capital, critical infrastructures, regional competition, social inclusions, health, safety, literacy, and other human opportunities. The processes and policies by which improvement in the economy, satisfaction and wellbeing of the social and political stability are sustained in constant terms are all part of the development efforts and outcomes. Hence, development of the economy through sound and intelligent economics would have direct relationship with our environment.






All these concepts are in play from the economy, the economics, and its integrated mix of development results whether good or bad, or aggressive or regressive. Obviously, it is a misnomer that the concept of “economic development” necessarily means that the economy is always in good condition. And for as long as degrees of results are involved, the politics of the day would take over. Nonetheless, our elected and appointed leaders should make clear what they mean when they converse about the “economy” and “economic development” and that less rhetoric mask the conversation is much better than saying nothing at all.

**Francisco R. Agulto**  
*Kannat Tabla, Saipan*

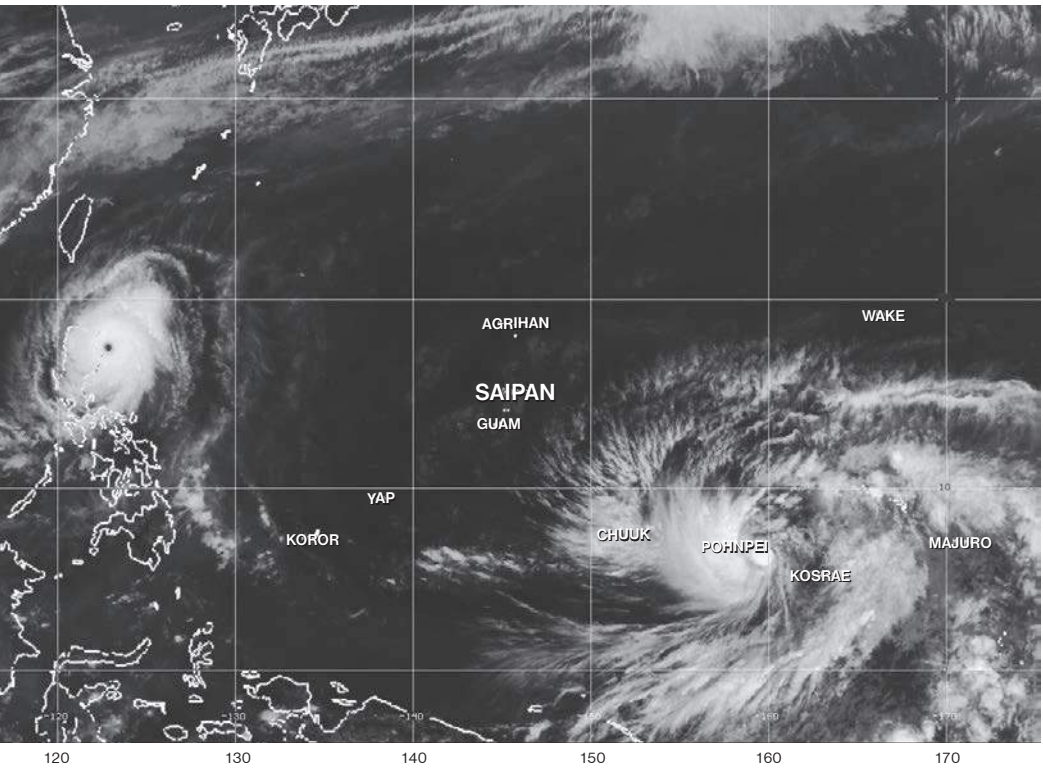


# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.
▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 75°	▲ 86° ▼ 75°	▲ 85° ▼ 75°	▲ 85° ▼ 75°

## Yesterday's Satellite Image



**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SU NDAY, MAY 10, 2015**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Dolphin (07W) is centered about 140 miles east-southeast of Pohnpei near 6N160E moving west-northwest at 10 mph with maximum sustained winds of 40 mph. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are found near and west of the center across Pohnpei state between 4N and 9N from 155E to 161E. For more information on Tropical Storm Dolphin, see bulletins issued by Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. A monsoon trough meanders eastward from 4N133E to Tropical Storm Dolphin at 6N160E then continues to near Kwajalein at 9N168E then passes through the date line at 2N. Areas of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present in a large area encompassing Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae and Majuro between 150E and 180 south of a line from 10N150E to 12N166E to 10N180E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 87	▼ 81
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲ 89	▼ 80
Yap	Showers	▲ 86	▼ 79
Chuuk	Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 81
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 77
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 84	▼ 79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 84	▼ 80

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Rain	▲ 65	▼ 57
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 80	▼ 52
Hong Kong	Rain	▲ 86	▼ 78
Honolulu	Windy	▲ 81	▼ 70
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 74	▼ 55
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲ 74	▼ 56
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 92	▼ 78
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 59	▼ 47
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 86	▼ 75
New York	Cloudy	▲ 84	▼ 66
Osaka	Rain	▲ 70	▼ 62
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83	▼ 58
Pusan	Rain	▲ 68	▼ 55
Rome	Sunny	▲ 80	▼ 58
Salem	Showers	▲ 68	▼ 47
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 60	▼ 49
Seoul	Rain	▲ 68	▼ 52
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 71	▼ 67
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲ 88	▼ 70



### NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
2:37 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
8:34 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
1:08 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
8:23 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	5:51 AM	6:37 PM
Tuesday	5:50 AM	6:37 PM
Wednesday	5:50 AM	6:38 PM
Thursday	5:50 AM	6:38 PM
Friday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	12:00 AM	11:56 AM
Tuesday	12:49 AM	12:53 PM
Wednesday	1:37 AM	1:51 PM
Thursday	2:25 AM	2:49 PM
Friday	3:13 AM	3:47 PM

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 2, 2015

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:15pm	3:55pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	12:55pm	1:45pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:05pm	3:55pm	2, 4	UA5077	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 5
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:15pm	2:50pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	3:20pm	3:55pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily
DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ623	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	10:55am	4:25pm	3, 5, 6
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	3, 4	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ624	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
7C3401	5:25pm	9:10pm	3, 5, 6				
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:00am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:55pm	3:10am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ704/623	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, ,3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
DL287/275	6:05am	9:30pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:25pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:45pm+1	6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:15pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM	UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	4 via GUM-Rota
UA5078/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM	UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	1 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM	UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	1 via GUM
OZ624/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN	UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
				UA184/5038	11:30pm	2:35pm+1	2 via GUM-Rota
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	2:35pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5041	11:30pm	6:25pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2 via GUM
				UA184/5043	11:30pm	10:10pm+1	5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/623	12:40am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM	UA180/5071	9:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM	UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:15pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM	UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:05pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:40pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
OZ624/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN	UA180/5041	9:55pm	6:25pm+1	1, 5 via GUM
				UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
				UA180/5043	9:55pm	10:10pm+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.								
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
			8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily						
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily						





CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Ironwood Saipan community is being built on Middle Road in Gualo Rai, opposite Pizza Hut and Docomo Pacific.

## Ironwood Saipan to host topping out ceremony

Ironwood, the developer and manager of premier rental housing communities, will host a topping out ceremony tomorrow, May 12, 2015, at 10am. The Ironwood Saipan community is located on Middle Road in Gualo Rai, opposite Pizza Hut and Docomo Pacific.

Ironwood Saipan will feature 80 apartments and is expected to be completed by November 2015. Ironwood brings their expertise as a housing developer to Saipan with this project, improving the quality of life for both the residents and neighbors of the property. The 2-, 3- and 4-bedroom apartments will feature energy-efficient construction, including solar power, solar hot water heaters, insulated walls and ceilings, low-emissivity windows, and Energy Star light fixtures and appliances. Ironwood estimates that this construction will result in up to 70 percent utility savings for residents. The community amenities will include filtered water, security cameras throughout the property, a 3,000-square-foot community center, a playground, covered pavilions with barbecue grills, and a basketball court.

"We are excited about the opportunity to introduce the

people of Saipan to the type of quality communities we have established in other locations," says Rick Inman, managing principal of Iron Bridge Capital, the parent company of Ironwood, which has developed 434 units.

Construction is progressing on schedule with anticipated completion in late October. To date the project has expended over 250,000 man-hours of labor, installed over 600,000 lbs of steel and placed over 2,000 cubic yards of concrete. At the topping out ceremony, we will be celebrating the completion of the building structures, a milestone event in all projects. Our focus will now turn to the completion of the building facades and the interior finishes.

Ironwood Saipan should be ready for occupancy in early November 2015. Due to interest already expressed by prospective tenants, those interested in applying to live in Ironwood Saipan should visit the Ironwood website (<http://www.ironwoodguam.com>). The website will give prospective tenants the opportunity to be added to the waiting list. Construction updates and additional information can be found on Ironwood's Facebook page. (PR)

### BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Belated happy birthday to Joleen CH. Borja, who celebrated her special day on May 9, 2015! May you have many more birthdays to come and God bless you. We love you! Greetings come from P.University, friends, family, mom, dad, and children.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Belated happy first birthday to Paul James Mendoza, who celebrated his special day on May 7, 2015, at Shirley's Restaurant and Coffee Shop in Susupe.

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality  
would like to extend our

# APPRECIATION

to all the groups and individuals who contributed to making this year's  
**Environmental Awareness Month**  
a huge success. (Over 4,000 people participated in various events  
throughout the month!) Most especially, we would like to thank the  
following sponsors, supporters, and participants.


**Agencies and Groups Who Participated in the Month of April:**

- Aqua Resort Club
- CNMI Board of Parole
- Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
- CTSI Logistics
- Cosmos Distributing
- Lion Club International
- DFS
- Twinkle Brite
- Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- Kanoa Resort
- CNMI Legislative Bureau
- Marianas Visitors Authority
- McDonalds
- Northern Marianas College
- POI Aviation
- Tan Holdings
- Fiesta Resort & Spa
- D&Q Distributors
- Dan Dan Middle School
- SSHS Environmental Club
- Northern Islands Mayor's office
- Century Tours, INC.
- DCCS-NAP office
- Department of Commerce
- Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
- Department of Public Safety
- Mariana Islands Nature Alliance
- Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
- Department of Land and Natural Resources

- No Ka Oi Termites & Pest Control
- BECQ Tinian
- BECQ Rota
- USDA/ NRCS
- NMC-CREES
- CNMI Forestry
- Division of Fish and Wildlife
- DLNR Sea Turtle Program
- Department of Fire, EMS
- Brown Tree Snake Program
- NOAA Fisheries
- APASEEM
- National Park Service
- Sornsen Media Group
- CNMI Micronesia Challenge
- Department of Agriculture
- Rota Crow Program
- DLNR Rota Forestry
- Rota CUC Water Division and Electrical Division
- Sinapalo Elementary School
- CNMI PSS Bus Transportation
- CNMI Public School System
- Saipan International School 2nd Grade Class
- Marianas Baptist Academy
- DPW Lower base Transfer Station
- 670 Rock Steady Shop
- Garapan Elementary School
- San Vicente Elementary School
- GTC Elementary School
- Kagman Elementary School

**Your contributions and efforts help us ensure the protection of  
a clean and healthy environment of all people of the CNMI!**





Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-15-016

WATER METER INSTALLATION, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for Water Meter Installation in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of removal/replacement of failed and non-functioning water meters on the CUC water system, installing meters for customers who do not currently have a water meter on their service line, and relocating water meters to the right-of-way. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

**This project is funded by the USEPA and the US Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Water & Energy Efficiency grant.**

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

**One (1) original and Seven (7) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-15-016, Water Meter Installation, Saipan” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 20, 2015**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 4, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, CUC Water/Wastewater Junior Engineer – via email [nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org](mailto:nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.


ALAN W. FLETCHER  
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, Jr.  
Purchasing Officer



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-15-015

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF TYPHOON RECOVERY MATERIALS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Typhoon Recovery Materials for CUC Power Division, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

*CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials, based on bids for “Commodity Groups”.*

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies** of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-15-015, Supply & Delivery of Typhoon Recovery Materials” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 27, 2015** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bid. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission’s (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 11, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Alfredo Palattao, CUC Power Division Engineer via email [alfred.palattao@cucgov.org](mailto:alfred.palattao@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER  
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Officer

# Noah, Emma top baby names in 2014

Emma and Noah are America’s most popular baby names for 2014. Emma returns to the top spot she held in 2008 and hangs out in first place with Noah. There are a few new names in the top 10 this year—James (a former No. 1 from the ‘40s and ‘50s) on the blue side and Charlotte on the pink side, her first time ever in the top 10. Makes you wonder if the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge got a sneak peek at the list, since naming their baby girl Her Royal Highness Princess Charlotte (which lands at No. 10) Elizabeth (which fell from the top 10 to No. 14) Diana (No. 297) of Cambridge. Social Security has a new addition this year too, Social Security Matters, the agency’s newborn interactive blog located at <http://blog.socialsecurity.gov>.

Here are the top 10 boys and girls names for 2014:

BOYS:	GIRLS:
1) Noah	1) Emma
2) Liam	2) Olivia
3) Mason	3) Sophia
4) Jacob	4) Isabella
5) William	5) Ava
6) Ethan	6) Mia
7) Michael	7) Emily
8) Alexander	8) Abigail
9) James	9) Madison
10) Daniel	10) Charlotte

For all the top baby names of 2014, go to Social Security’s website, [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

Social Security Matters, the agency’s new bundle of joy, launches as we celebrate 80 years of serving the American public, and is an addition to our communications family where people can find information on retirement, disability, Supple-

mental Security Income, online services, and much more. It also is a place where the public can engage in conversations with the agency about what matters most. The blog encourages discussion and offers important solutions. Much like being a new parent, making benefit decisions can be overwhelming. The blog is the latest in a long line of tools Social Security offers to help educate the public about their benefits and how to access agency services.

The birth of a child is a special time for families. While having fun with the baby names list, acting commissioner Carolyn W. Colvin encourages everyone to visit the agency’s website and create a *my Social Security* account at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov). *my Social Security* is a personalized online account that people can use beginning in their working years and continuing throughout the time they receive Social Security benefits.

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries can have instant access to their benefit verification letter, payment history, and complete earnings record by establishing a *my Social Security* account. Beneficiaries also can change their address, start or change direct deposit information, and print a replacement SSA-1099 online.

Individuals age 18 and older who are not receiving benefits can also sign up for a *my Social Security* account to get their personalized online *Social Security Statement*. The online *Statement* provides workers with secure and convenient access to their Social Security earnings and benefit

information, and estimates of future benefits they can use to plan for their retirement.

The agency began compiling the baby name list in 1997, with names dating to back to 1880. At the time of a child’s birth, parents supply the name to the agency when applying for a child’s Social Security card, thus making Social Security America’s source for the most popular baby names.

Each year, the list reveals the effect of pop culture on naming trends. This year’s winners for biggest jump in popularity in the Top 1,000 are Aranza and Bode.

Aranza jumped an amazing 3,625 spots on the girls’ side to number 607, from number 4,232 in 2013. The Latin soap opera “*Siempre Mi Amore*” was aired on Univision from 2013 to 2015. The show featured a young lead character named Aranza, and obviously had its effect on naming trends last year.

Bode raced ahead 645 spots, from number 1,428 in 2013 to number 783 in 2014. This might have had something to do with the Winter Olympics in early 2014, where Bode Miller continued his outstanding alpine skiing career by collecting his sixth Olympic medal. Not only is he the most successful male American alpine skier of all time, he is considered by many to be an American hero.

The second fastest riser for boys was Axl, a nod to both rock legend Axl Rose of Guns N’ Roses and Axl Jack Duhamel, son of Stacy Ann “Fergie” Ferguson and Josh Duhamel. For girls, Montserrat, the lead character in a very popular Latin soap opera, was number two, joined by another Monserrat (spelled just one letter differently) at number three.

Visit [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) to view the entire list. (*SSA*)

## Japan Consulate to offer class on Japanese culture

The Consular Office of Japan in Saipan will organize a class about Japanese culture on May 28, 2015, from 2:30pm to 4:30pm. Anyone interested must register their name by Monday, May 25, 2015, by contacting [cojsf@ag.mofa.go.jp](mailto:cojsf@ag.mofa.go.jp).

The class—which will be held at the Consular Office of Japan’s conference room on the second floor of the Bank of Hawaii Building, Mariana Heights Business Park—will be open to just 15 people. Participants will be taught Origami (paper folding), Japan video topics, etc. (*PR*)

Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ) ) s.s. )

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to P.L. 15-117, a public auction will be conducted as follows:

- General Description of Property:  
Various Electrical parts and supplies
- Occupant of Storage Facility:  
Powersource Energy Services, Inc.
- Name and Address of Storage Facility:  
Consolidated Transportation Services, Inc.  
REM Warehouse Building  
Lower Base, Saipan

**Date, Time and Place of Sale:** The sale, open to the general public, will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. at the REM Warehouse Building located at Lower Base, Saipan. The property will be sold on an “as is” basis without any warranty, express or implied.

Dated this 7th day of May, 2015.

/s/ Steven P. Pixley, Esq.  
Attorney for CTSI  
Third Floor, TSL Plaza  
Beach Road, Garapan  
Tel. No.: (670) 233-2898/5175



# Chamber offers \$12,000 scholarship funding

One of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's core missions is to promote the general health and welfare of the islands. We realize that the future success of the CNMI rests on today's youth, who will eventually lead our businesses, our economy, our community, and our future.

The Chamber also recognizes that the cost of postsecondary education is high. It is for this reason that the Saipan Chamber of Commerce continues the tradition of Educational Scholarship Fund. On June 3, 2015, we will award six \$2,000 scholarships to deserving applicants.

The Saipan Chamber of

Commerce Educational Scholarship Fund provides one-time monetary awards in the following categories:

## High school senior applicants

- Completed application form
- CNMI-accredited high school transcript with a minimum GPA of 3.5
- Copy of SAT or ACT results
- Summary of extra-curricular activities & examples of leadership within the community
- Two letters of recommen-

dation, at least one of whom is from an educator or business employer/mentor

■ Copies of any college, university, or vocational school acceptance letters

■ Essay of no more than 1,000 words: "How I Will Change My Community"

## College student applicants

- Completed application form
- Official college transcript with a minimum GPA of 3.5

the No.1 issue that needs to be addressed for the CNMI."

## Pellegrino vocational applicants

- Completed application form
- Summary of volunteer activities and examples of leadership within the community
- Two letters of recommendation, at least one of whom is from an educator or business employer/mentor
- Copies of vocational school acceptance letters
- Copy of course schedule and any completed courses
- Essay of no more than 1,000 words: "How I Will

Change My Community"

Complete scholarship application packets (together with all required documents) must be submitted to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office, located on the third floor of the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe, no later than 5pm, Wednesday, May 13, 2015. Some applicants may be asked to attend a personal interview or teleconference as part of the selection process. For information and more details, email [coordinator@saipanchamber.com](mailto:coordinator@saipanchamber.com) or call April/Giselle at 234-7150. (SCC)

## Century Insurance Co. launches CIC Risk Management Solutions

Century Insurance Co. has launched new programs called "CIC Risk Management Solutions" to provide value-added services to its growing body of commercial insurance customers. These services are provided in cooperation with its general agents on Saipan, Aon Insurance, and Pacifica Insurance.

There are three facets to CIC Risk Management Solutions:

## Managed care for Workers Compensation injuries

CIC has partnered with FHP Health Center to provide expedited medical care for its Workers Compensation Insurance claimants. When an employee of its Workers Compensation Insurance clients has an occupational injury and the employee seeks treatment from FHP Health Center, the injured employee receives "VIP treatment."

CIC is negotiating with other medical clinics to be added to this program.

## Claims management

CIC teaches its commercial insurance customers how to handle claims as they occur. Whether it be an occupational injury, a customer that was injured on the premises, or an auto accident, CIC's professional claims staff teaches customers how to handle the injured person's needs so that the claim is handled promptly, professionally, and fairly.

CIC also assists its commercial insurance customers with ways to reduce the frequency and impact of claims on business operations.

## Loss Control services

CIC provides its commercial insurance customers with trained staff to inspect and identify conditions that may cause an insurance claim. CIC provides recommendations to eliminate or reduce those conditions.

CIC's Loss Control surveyor is a trained engineer with many years of experience as a risk inspector. Recently, he completed a course in OSHA Hazard Recognition from the University of California at San Diego. (CIC)



## WHERE CAN YOUR CAREER TAKE YOU?

### EXCITING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY WITH DFS SAIPAN

#### TRAVEL INDUSTRY MARKETING MANAGER, KOREAN TOURIST MARKET

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A DYNAMIC INDIVIDUAL WHO STRIVES FOR EXCELLENCE AND VALUES INTEGRITY AND TEAM WORK TO BE OUR TRAVEL INDUSTRY MARKETING MANAGER, KOREAN TOURIST MARKET IN SAIPAN. KOREAN AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE FLUENCY IS REQUIRED, AND EXPERIENCE WORKING IN THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY IS HIGHLY DESIRED. A VERY COMPETITIVE SALARY AND BENEFITS PACKAGE IS OFFERED. THE POSITION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- MANAGING DAILY DFS TRAVEL INDUSTRY MARKETING OPERATIONS FOR THE KOREAN TOURIST MARKET IN SAIPAN
- CONDUCTING AND REPORTING DEMOGRAPHIC, SOCIOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF THE MARKET
- DEVELOPING AND PARTICIPATING IN MARKETING AND PUBLICITY STRATEGIES AND PLANS FOR THE MARKET
- WORKING CLOSELY WITH TRAVEL INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES ON MARKETING AND PUBLICITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE MARKET

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES WILL HAVE A HIGH LEVEL OF PROFESSIONALISM AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS, AND BE VERY COMFORTABLE WITH PUBLIC SPEAKING AND PRESENTATIONS. THEY WILL BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN A FLEXIBLE WORK SCHEDULE AND TRAVEL FOR BUSINESS WHEN NEEDED.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT & TO APPLY FOR THE POSITION:

VISIT: [WWW.DFSGROUP.COM/DFS-CAREERS](http://WWW.DFSGROUP.COM/DFS-CAREERS)

CONFIDENTIAL CONTACT: ESTHER ADA, HR MANAGER, DFS SAIPAN, .L.P., [ESTHER.ADA@DFS.COM](mailto:ESTHER.ADA@DFS.COM), +1 670.236-2510

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE IS MAY 25, 2015. DFS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

### THE TRAVELER'S LUXURY DEPARTMENT STORE

ABU DHABI | AUCKLAND | BALI | CAIRNS | GUAM | HAWAII | HONG KONG | JAKARTA  
LOS ANGELES | MACAU | MEDAN | MUMBAI | NEW DELHI | NEW YORK | OKINAWA  
PALAU | SAIPAN | SAN FRANCISCO | SINGAPORE | SYDNEY

[DFSGROUP.COM](http://DFSGROUP.COM)



Established in 1988

P.O. Box 10000 PMB 121 Saipan MP 96950 ([saipanprivateschool.com](http://saipanprivateschool.com))  
Tel: 670-323-7451 Email: [whisperingpalms@saipan@gmail.com](mailto:whisperingpalms@saipan@gmail.com)

## Open Enrollment:

Whispering Palms School is currently accepting applications for the 2015 - 2016 school year.

W.P.S. has small classes with an average of fewer than 18 students per class.

### Experienced Staff:

#### PRINCIPAL:

**Rob Epley**, Twenty-three years of teaching experience, Masters of Science in Education from National University

#### TEACHERS:

**Kristy Beling**, Entering third year of teaching at Whispering Palms, Masters of Elementary Education from Winona State University

**Nick Brennfleck**, Eleventh year teaching, Masters of Teaching from George Mason

**Jenny Slack**, Started at Whispering Palms in 1999, Masters in Teaching from the Evergreen State College

**Mark Epley**, Twenty-three years of teaching experience, California Language Acquisition and Development degree from UCI/National University



W.P.S. participates in M.I.S.O. and Private School sports



Tennis Profession Jeff Race teaches our physical education classes

### Whispering Palms School is part of the Coalition of Private Schools

Special Activities: Managaha • Artists' and Authors' Night • Plays and Musicals • Halloween and Holiday Activities

Specialty classes: Physical Education with Coach Jeff Race, a professional tennis player;

Hands on science classes with Nicole Schaffer, graduate of Auburn University, degree in Conservation and Biodiversity and Wildlife Science, Masters of Science & Natural History Filmmaking, Otago, NZ

Fine Arts with Nadia Richards, degree in Art and Design, studied Art History at Brigham Young University, taught at Summer Camps, private classes, and various projects for businesses.



W.P.S. has an educational campout every February on Managaha Island



W.P.S. students participate in plays, musicals, and an end-of-the-year Artists' and Authors' Night.



Learning about Sea Turtle at Managaha

### Here are some of the Colleges and Universities Whispering Palms School students have attended:

Harvard University, Stanford University, Brown University, West Point, United States Naval Academy, University of California, University of Hawaii, Whitman College, Mount Holyoke College, Boise State University, Ecole Hoteliere de Lausanne, Fashion Institute of Technology, Knox University, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Gonzaga, Loyola Marymount, Santa Clara, Savannah College of Art & Design and Ewha Women's College



# Six win in Taste of Marianas pie-eating contest



**JAYSON CAMACHO**  
First heat winners in the pie-eating contest, from left to right, are Erick Enriquez, Joel Fruit, and Conall Hartig.



**JAYSON CAMACHO**  
Second heat winners in the pie-eating contest, from left to right, are MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman, third place winner John Lewis, first place winner Simon Necesito, second place winner Ray Emul, and MVA's Ryan Calvo.

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**  
jayson\_camacho@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

More than 16 individuals signed up to chomp down on full-sized pies in Saturday's 2015 Taste of Marianas Food Festival and Beer Garden pie-eating competition. In the end, only six emerged victorious in the two-heat competition.

The first heat started out with competitors in the 17-and-below age category vying for the first three places. Compared to last year's, this year's competitors were allowed to use their hands to hold their plates. However, no one can lift the plate off the table.

One highlight of the category was a 6-year-old girl who joined the competition, drawing attention and cheers despite not winning the heat.

Emerging victorious with

faces and fingers full of pie were Erick Enriquez, Joel Fruit, and Conall Hartig.

The second heat included 10 competitors. Finishing first was Simon Necesito, who also won the hotdog-eating competition last week. Raymond Emul came in second place this time, after coming in third in last week's hotdog-eating competition, while John Lewis came in third.

Both competitions had prizes for first place, which was \$50 worth of Taste of the Marianas tokens, \$30 for second, and \$20 for third. The organizing Marianas Visitors Authority said the tokens were prizes and could not be exchanged for cash.

Enriquez and Conall said they both joined because they thought the tokens could be exchanged for cash. However, MVA's Ryan Calvo informed them that it was just tokens

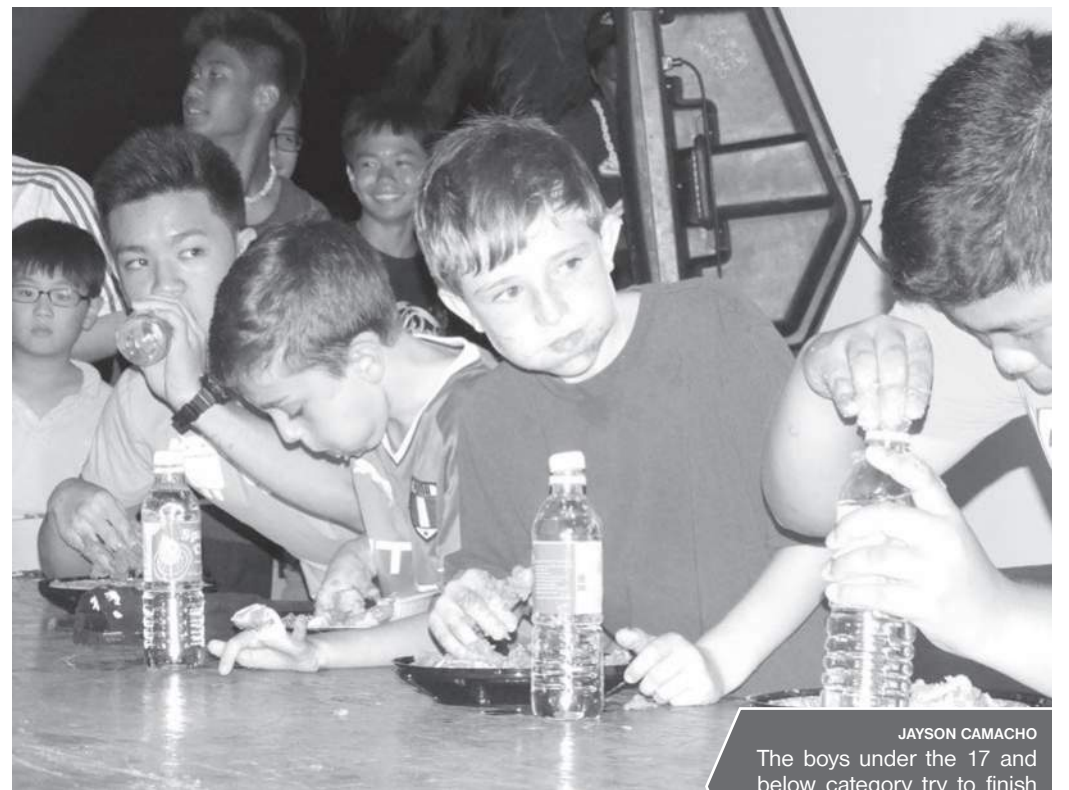
that they could use for the remaining events of the Taste of the Marianas.

Necesito was happy, saying that this time he came to win first place.

MVA's Bruce Bateman noted the public's interest in joining the competition, saying they didn't have to announce the opening of entries for the competition as it was already full.

"I didn't even have to announce it, but all slots were filled before 8pm," Bateman said. "So far we've had great participants for the competition and next week we will have a magic show."

MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas noted that this time they had additional vendors. Tourists and community members got to enjoy local arts and crafts, necklaces, local jewelry, and many more.



**JAYSON CAMACHO**  
The boys under the 17 and below category try to finish their pie as fast as the other participants.

## SSFM INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING JOB FAIR

**Engineering Opportunities in Guam for Construction Management and Quality Assurance**

Join us to find out about potential engineering positions available soon in Guam.

**When:** Friday, May 15, 2015, 9am thru 4pm.

**Place:** SSFM CNMI, LLC Office  
Chalan Pal'e Arnold St., 2nd Floor, Tun Kiku Building,  
Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950

General description of the positions will be made available at the job fair.

Interested applicants must be willing to relocate.

*SSFM International, Inc. is an EEO/Affirmative Action Employer.*

### TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, May 13, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference Room.

#### AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY
  - a. Call to Order
  - b. Roll Call
  - c. Adoption of Agenda
  - d. Adoption of Minutes
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS<sup>1</sup>
- III. REPORTS
  - a. Chair's Report
  - b. Executive Director's Report
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
  - a. Management of Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino
- V. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. Policy & Procedure re Investigative Fees Account
  - a. Ratification of Table Movement Requests
  - b. Licensing Matters
    1. Casino Key Employee License Applications
    2. Casino Employee License Applications
    3. Hotel Registrations
    4. Casino Service Industry License Applications
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION<sup>2</sup>
- VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

<sup>1</sup> Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.





JAYSON CAMACHO  
Two young sisters join the pie-eating contest against older participants.



JAYSON CAMACHO  
Marianas Visitors Authority staff smile for *Saipan Tribune* at the token booth during the 17th Annual Taste of Marianas.



JAYSON CAMACHO  
Candidates for the 2015 Miss Marianas laugh and smile while checking out the arts and craft booths.



JAYSON CAMACHO  
Tourists look at local arts and craft vendors at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.

WORLD RESORT

# JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

<b>OPEN DATE:</b> May 11, 2015 <b>CLOSE DATE:</b> May 25, 2015	<b>POSITION:</b> Human Resources Clerk <b>SALARY:</b> \$6.05 - \$6.55 per hour
<b>Qualifications:</b> High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum two (2) years experience in human resources or administrative preferred. Must have excellent people skills, willingness to provide support, friendly attitude and a ready smile. One (1) position is currently available.	
<b>OPEN DATE:</b> May 11, 2015 <b>CLOSE DATE:</b> May 25, 2015	<b>POSITION:</b> Sales & Marketing Clerk <b>SALARY:</b> \$6.05 - \$6.55 per hour
<b>Qualifications:</b> High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum two (2) years experience in sales, marketing or reservations preferred. One (1) position is currently available.	
<b>OPEN DATE:</b> May 11, 2015 <b>CLOSE DATE:</b> May 25, 2015	<b>POSITION:</b> Reservations Clerk <b>SALARY:</b> \$6.05 - \$6.55 per hour
<b>Qualifications:</b> High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum two (2) years experience in hotel reservations preferred. Must have excellent people skills, willingness to provide service, friendly attitude and a ready smile. One (1) position is currently available.	
<b>OPEN DATE:</b> May 11, 2015 <b>CLOSE DATE:</b> May 25, 2015	<b>POSITION:</b> Guest Relations Officer <b>SALARY:</b> Negotiable
<b>Qualifications:</b> High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum two (2) years experience in front desk or concierge preferred. Proficiency in the Korean or the Mandarin language is required. Must have excellent people skills, willingness to provide service, friendly attitude and a ready smile. Three (3) positions are currently available.	
<b>OPEN DATE:</b> May 11, 2015 <b>CLOSE DATE:</b> May 25, 2015	<b>POSITION:</b> Front Desk Clerk <b>SALARY:</b> \$6.05 - \$6.55 per hour
<b>Qualifications:</b> High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum two (2) years experience in front desk or concierge preferred. Must have excellent people skills, willingness to provide service, friendly attitude and a ready smile. One (1) position is currently available.	
<b>OPEN DATE:</b> May 11, 2015 <b>CLOSE DATE:</b> May 25, 2015	<b>POSITION:</b> Cook <b>SALARY:</b> \$6.05 - \$6.55 per hour
<b>Qualifications:</b> High school graduate or equivalent required. Two years of formal training/education in culinary arts required. Position requires employee to receive food handler related health examinations and clearances as condition to their continued employment. Four (4) positions are currently available.	
<b>OPEN DATE:</b> May 11, 2015 <b>CLOSE DATE:</b> May 25, 2015	<b>POSITION:</b> Lifeguard <b>SALARY:</b> \$6.05 - \$6.55 per hour
<b>Qualifications:</b> High school graduate or equivalent required. Obtaining a lifeguard certification will be required for continued employment for the lifeguard position. Must have a friendly and an outgoing personality. Fifteen (15) positions are currently available for the lifeguard position.	
<b>OPEN DATE:</b> May 11, 2015 <b>CLOSE DATE:</b> May 25, 2015	<b>POSITION:</b> Mechanic & Electrician <b>SALARY:</b> \$6.05 - \$6.55 per hour
<b>Qualifications:</b> High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum of two (2) years of formal mechanical experience or mechanical training is required. Two years of experience in related field strongly preferred. Two (2) positions are currently available for the mechanic position. Two (2) positions are currently available for the electrician position.	
For more information, please contact the Human Resources Team at (670) 234-5900 ext. 274/266/576. Employment application forms are available at the Saipan World Resort, Security Office, located next to the Wave Jungle/Water Park. Applicants must submit the completed form and all the necessary requirements to the Security Office. Incomplete application will not be accepted by the Security Office.	



**Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



# ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program is now accepting Vendor Applications for the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

All interested vendors may pick up an application at the main office located on Upper Navy Hill Building # N-25, beginning May 04, 2015 through July 17, 2015; Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, or request for an application via email at [fabianu@cnmiwic.org](mailto:fabianu@cnmiwic.org) or download an application on CHCC's website at <http://chcc.gov.mp>.

Applications must be submitted to the CNMI WIC Program's Administrative Office no later than 4:00 p.m., July 17, 2015.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the information provided to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to the Vendor Management Coordinator, Fabian M. Ulloa at (670) 664-4066, by email at [fabianu@cnmiwic.org](mailto:fabianu@cnmiwic.org) or by facsimile at (670) 664-4069.

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

/s/ Esther L. Muña  
Chief Executive Officer  
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ Carmen C. Cabrera  
Administrator  
CNMI WIC Program



## SAIPAN FLOWER AND ORNAMENTAL PLANTS FESTIVAL

## Lerios' pink tropical hanging plant wins 'Best of Show'

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA  
frauline\_villanueva@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

After an absence of more than a decade, the Saipan Flower and Ornamental Plants Festival was revived in Susupe last Saturday as part of the Saipan Sabalu Farmers' Market Inc.'s projects.

Various entries for the competition were displayed at the 4-H Club Building. A total of 83 entries from 26 individuals joined

the event. They competed in 10 categories: bacchia, bougainvillea, crotons, duranta, ixora, orchids, palms, dish plants, exotic plants, and hanging plants.

Hermes Diaz topped three of the 10 categories. Other first placers were Prince Diaz, Sophia DL Guerrero, Katrina Cabrera, Delfina Santos, Rowena Aldan, and Sang Park D.

Aside from the different flower categories, a "Best of Show" award was also awarded.

ed. Bonbon Lerios' pink tropical hanging plant was the declared winner.

Cash prizes of \$100, \$75 and \$50, along with produce and goodies, were given away to the first, second and third placers.

Those who joined also had the option to sell their entries.

The festival was also spearheaded by its chairwoman, Diann Torres, the wife of Lt. Gov. Ralph Torres, who said beautification of the islands and

renewed support for the Sabalu Market are the main reasons for the revival of the festival.

The festival was last held in 2003.

However, unlike the years before when private companies with professional landscapers were the ones who mostly joined the event, this year they wanted individuals and residents to compete.

"Just to get everybody into planting which will beau-

tify our islands," Torres said. "We want to give the opportunity to women and men who love planting and just spread that out."

Aside from members of the Sabalu Market, the event was also supported and sponsored by Blossoms Floral Shop, J's Restaurant, Ace Hardware, True Value, Himawari, YCO, Saipan Shipping, and National Office Supply, among others.

"It's a good turnout for a little publicity that we did and for a really short time. I believe we started planning two months ago," Torres said.

According to the committee, they plan to do this every year, a day before Mother's Day.

"We wanted to do it the Saturday before Mother's Day so that the guys can buy flowers for mom," committee member JM Guerrero said.

## Georgetown says net metering rules 'discriminate' against customer base

By DENNIS B. CHAN  
dennis\_chan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Consultants of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission say technical defects in the current net metering regulations discriminate in a way that shifts costs to less wealthy customers.

Georgetown Consulting Group, in their first review of these regulations since they were established in 2012, said these flaws discriminate by allowing affluent customers a chance to reduce their electric bills to zero at the expense of poorer customers.

The consultants took aim at the regulation that requires the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to offer net metering to customers with a renewable available generating capacity of no more than 10 megawatts.

The consultants find these levels "unreasonable."

At this level, the capacity allowed is equal to "3,000 times" the capacity level needed for an average CNMI residential customer and "500 times" the capacity for a commercial consumer to provide for all their energy needs.

"These levels are simply unreasonable and represent a significant technical flaw in the current net metering statute," the consultants wrote.

This limits the penetration of the net metering within the residential and commercial classes.

Since the program is offered on a first-come, first-serve basis, the total number of consumers that can become eligible before CUC's capability to accept renewable energy is reached is "reduced" because of the large capacity limit for a single consumer, they said.

This "discriminates by providing more affluent customers the opportunity to reduce their electricity bills to zero and enrich themselves by selling their excess at the expense of less affluent residential customers who will be responsible for paying the standby and back up capacity and infrastructure operating and maintenance expenses of net-metered customers."

"Residential customers with large renewable systems pay CUC nothing for service and will receive payment for their

excess production," the consultants said.

Because of this, the costs that CUC incurs to provide backup and standby capacity to these customers and the costs incurred to provide delivery to these customers to sell their excess energy is allocated to all other customers.

Compared to the U.S. mainland, the consultants said their capacity limits lean toward 10 kilowatts for residential consumers and 25 kilowatts for commercial.

The consultants said if these similar capacity limitations were in place, it would allow for a greater number of net metered consumers to be added to the system and would reduce the subsidy impacts of excess capacity.

The consultants also called "extraordinarily large" the current net-metered capacity level, which is 30 percent of CUC's peak demand.

They said the potential 30 percent of capacity that would be exempted from fixed and operating and maintenance costs would total 12 cents per kilowatt-hour.

"If a full capacity existed CUC would have to spread this economic burden to its remaining consumers," resulting in about \$0.02 kilowatt-hours to all non-net-metered customers.

"We would recommend heading this matter off before it becomes more difficult to resolve," the consultants wrote.

The consultants recommended that the 10-megawatt capacity limitation and the 30 percent total net metering penetration level could not be recommended as acceptable.

They recommended that before any action is taken, a study on the net-metering program be undertaken.

This would include the current levels of subsidies being received by net energy metered customers, the impact of this on all other customers in terms of their monthly bill, an estimated impact of this over 10 years, and a survey of current net metering best practices being implemented by other jurisdictions, including sunset provisions, treatment of excess credits, and capacity levels.



FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

Sophia DL Guerrero's lovely orchids won first place in its category.



FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

Bonbon Lerios' tropical hanging plant, which won Best of Show, is held by its new owner, Nola Hix, who bought it for \$30.

## CHCC aims to step up its game with specialized care

By JAYSON CAMACHO  
jayson\_camacho@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. is looking into incorporating specialized care in its system, which could eliminate the need for off-island medical referrals since special treatment can already be done locally, according to CEO Esther Muña.

"As you know that CHCC was created by Public Law 16-51. In essence it combined the hospital, public health, behavioral health, the Community Guidance Center, and all its related programs [on] Saipan, Tinian and Rota. This was to allow us in management more flexibility and authority to in-

dependently meet the acute and long-term health care needs," Muña said.

"What we want to do with this facility now is provide tertiary or specialized care. It is about time we start looking and have access to tertiary care or specialized care," she added.

The hospital currently provides only primary care services.

Providing tertiary care would mean stepping up its service to another level, Muña said.

"We want to do that and we are trying to look for ways to do that. We're discussing it. We were at a point where our level of care was really bad. [The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services] wanted to yank it

right then and there. We wanted to pursue high quality of care... that is our goal. Where do we go from here? We go and start looking into specialties, that is what," she said.

Muña said they needed a business plan—now in the process of being finalized—in order to look into upcoming regulations to see changes for the next five years.

Muna said they are at a flat level right now. They went from being surveyed by CMS and having numerous citations to having improved many aspects of their operation.

The hospital's condition of participation in Medicare has been extended to October this year.

"You either go up, stay flat, or go down and we want to be able to go up. We went from down and now we're up but we want to try to continue to go up," she said.

"Guam has some tertiary services [but] we don't want to keep referring [patients] anywhere else. We want to go beyond that because we can't continue to do that," she added.

The business plan is widely expected to contain how CHCC will address most, if not all, questions regarding its financial and management plans. This will help identify revenue streams that will possibly look into the future of specialized care in the CNMI.



# Nation

## At least 1 dead as tornadoes move through North Texas

**CISCO, Texas (AP)**—Multiple tornadoes tore through North Texas on Saturday, leaving one person dead and others unaccounted for in a sparsely populated farming and ranching area as the system slowly weakened while advancing toward Fort Worth, officials said.

One of the twisters caused “five miles of destruction” as it ravaged homes in a rural area south of the town of Cisco, about 100 miles west of Fort Worth, Eastland County Judge Rex Fields said.

“The homes that I’ve seen, there are just maybe one or two walls standing,” Fields, who also serves as the county’s emergency services coordinator, told The Associated Press. “(The tornado has) taken them into pieces and blown them out into pastures.”



**AP**  
Rain clouds hang over the press box during a delay in the Sprint Cup Series auto race at Kansas Speedway in Kansas City, Kan., Saturday, May 9, 2015.

nett, about 15 miles north of Wichita Falls, where a second tornado touched down. A police dispatcher who declined to give her name due to department policy said tornado sirens could be heard in Burkburnett just before 6 p.m.

As the storm moved toward Fort Worth later in the evening, the National Weather Service had canceled tornado warnings in the counties still

in its path.

The weather service on Saturday afternoon had elevated to “moderate” the risk of tornadoes in the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area and elsewhere across North Texas. Eastland County, which was part of the enhanced zone, was pelted with 3-inch hail as the storm rumbled through.

Storms also brought heavy rain and quarter-sized hail to parts of southwest Oklahoma on Saturday afternoon, but meteorologists said there was so much rain—and so little sunshine—that the tornado threat there lessened throughout the day.

Fields said one person was killed and there were likely other injuries. Authorities were going house to house to assess the damage, but that proved difficult amid the heavy rainfall, he said.

The extent of injuries or fatalities also wasn’t immediately clear in the town of Burkburnett.

## WWII soldier’s gift to mom, lost for 73 years, returns home

**MILLVILLE, Mass. (AP)**—This is the story of a loving tribute from a soldier preparing for war to his mother on the other side of the continent, who didn’t know if she would ever see her boy again.

The elaborate pillow sham he sent her, lost for more than 70 years, has finally come home, just in time for Mother’s Day.

The sham, emblazoned with the word “Mother” and sent in 1942 by Dominic O’Gara from his Army base in California to his mother in the small Massachusetts town of Millville, was discovered last month by a town native on eBay.

The hope now is to put the sham on display in the town’s senior center, just yards from the house where the O’Gara family once lived.

“To me, it’s come back to

where it belongs,” said Margaret Carroll, chairwoman of the town Historical Commission. “It’s as close to Mrs. O’Gara as it can get.”

Donald Lamoureux, who lives in Cumberland, Rhode Island, but who grew up in Millville, spotted an envelope for sale on eBay, and even though he had no idea what was inside, he knew he had to have it when he saw the date and the Millville address. He paid \$5 for it.

He was stunned when he looked inside.

“There was this pillow sham that had been sealed away for 73 years, and it looked brand new,” he said.

Although it had deep creases from being folded for decades, it wasn’t frayed, stained or faded.

The white pillow cover has a

blue fringe, and in addition to the word “Mother” in blue, is decorated with red roses with green stems, and the words “Camp McQuaide, Calif.,” where O’Gara was stationed.

It also has this famous poem, written by lyricist Howard Johnson:

■ ■ ■

M is for the million things she gave me

O means only that she’s growing old

T is for the tears she shed to save me

H is for her heart of purest gold

E is for her eyes with love light shining

R means right and right she’ll always be

Put them all together they spell mother

## US economy rebounding with solid if unspectacular job gains

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Rebounding from a dismal start to the year, the U.S. economy added 223,000 jobs in April, a solid gain that suggested that employers are helping fuel a durable if still subpar recovery.

The job growth helped lower the unemployment rate to 5.4 percent from 5.5 percent in March, the Labor Department said Friday. That is the lowest rate since May 2008, six months into the Great Recession.

The figures provided some reassurance that the economy is recovering from a harsh winter and other temporary headwinds that likely caused it to shrink in the first three months of the year. Yet the bounce back appears to be falling short of hopes that growth would finally accelerate in 2015 and top 3 percent for the first time in a decade.

Most analysts foresee the economy growing about 2.5 percent this year, similar to the modest expansion typical of much of the 6-year-old recovery.

In its report Friday, the government revised sharply down its estimate of March’s job gain to 85,000 from 126,000. In the past three months, employers have added 191,000 positions, a decent total but well below last year’s average of 260,000.

“Job growth is going from great to good,” said Michael Feroli, an economist at JPMorgan Chase.

One reason the economy hasn’t accelerated faster is that overseas economic turmoil is still restraining growth. A stronger dollar, which makes U.S. goods more expensive overseas, has cut into factory production. Manufacturers barely added jobs for a second straight month. And last year’s

plunge in oil prices has led drilling companies to lay off thousands of workers.

Investors breathed a sigh of relief Friday because the figures suggested an economic rebound from the January-March quarter—but one not so explosive as to likely cause the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates from record lows anytime soon. The Dow Jones industrial average soared 267 points to close up 1.5 percent.

The unemployment rate is nearing the level the Fed considers healthy. Yet many other signs suggest that the job market isn’t fully recovered. The number of full-time workers, for example, fell in April while the number of part-timers jumped more than 400,000 to 27.7 million— a half-million more than a year ago.

## In Loving Memory † Donicio San Nicolas Reyes

of Tinian, was called to his  
Eternal Life on May 4, 2015  
(Monday) at the age of 80.

*In his new life, he now joins his:*

**Wife:** †Rosa Cruz Reyes  
**Parents:** †Vicente Cruz Reyes  
& †Maria Guzman San Nicolas

**Father and Mother In-Law:** †Vicente Taitingfong Cruz & †Ana Lizama Cruz

**Brothers, Sisters and In-Laws:** †Joaquin & †Juana Reyes, †Benbinido & †Vicenta Reyes, †Prudencio & †Delgadina Reyes, †Jose & †Catalina Reyes, †Mariano & †Beatrice Reyes, †Luis & †Antonia Reyes, †Ursula Reyes, †Estefania & †Tobias Muna, †Ana R. & †Jose Castro, Remedio R. & †Ignacio Dela Cruz, †Alfonso Reyes, †Maximina R. & †Eduardo Flores

*His love and memories will forever remain in the hearts of his:*

**Children:** Bernadita C. Reyes (Michael, Sylvester)  
Ursula C. Reyes / Mike Vichels (Dimitri, Anisha)  
Ana R. / Thomas Erickson (Roque, Ringo, Melvalyn, Rino, Mercy Ann, Thomas Jr. Edith Tammie)  
Joan R. / Gilbert M. Cabrera (Gilbert Jr., Trinn Rose, Rosa Ann, Ana Marie, Jilvanny, Juan Vicente)  
Marie R. / Edward Shai (Eldred, Mildred, Elgene, Melgirene)  
Donicio Jr. C. / Trinidad C. Reyes (Kiara, Lawrence)  
Vincent C. / Nieves U. Reyes (Donicio III, Vincent Jr, Nicky)  
Joe John C. / Aileen Taitano (Dorsha, Moses, Joe John Jr., Becky Ann, Joeleen)

**Sister In-Law:** Anuncia Reyes

He is additionally survived by numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephews.

Rosary is being prayed nightly at the San Jose Church at 7:00 pm. Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on May 12, 2015 at 10:00 am. Interment will follow thereafter at the San Jose Public Cemetery where our beloved Donicio will be laid to his final rest.

Un Dangkulo na Si Yu’us Ma’ase ginen I Korason-mami

**Children, Grandchildren  
& Great grandchildren**





## World

## UK election leaves Cameron at helm of a disunited kingdom

**LONDON** (AP)—Standing outside 10 Downing Street the day after his unexpected election victory, Prime Minister David Cameron vowed to govern for “one nation, one United Kingdom.” That will be easier said than done, as competing brands of nationalism threaten to pull the country apart.

Separatists have swept the board in Scotland, Wales wants greater autonomy and England saw spreading support for the insular U.K. Independence Party and its demand to leave the European Union.

Newspaper editorial pages on Saturday oozed anxiety about Britain’s future, worrying that Cameron could be the last leader of a truly United Kingdom.

The Independent said the election “leaves the prospect of the U.K. still being in one piece at the next general election in 2020 in some doubt.” The pro-Conservative Daily Telegraph agreed that “the biggest problem facing Mr. Cameron is the future of the Union,” while the liberal Guardian said leaving the EU would be “a catastrophe for Britain economically, politically and socially.”

What a difference eight



AP  
Britain’s Prime Minister David Cameron speaks to the media outside 10 Downing Street in London, Friday, May 8, 2015.

56 of Scotland’s 59 seats, said his party had been “hit by two nationalisms,” Scottish and English.

The four regions of the U.K.—England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland—have always had distinct identities, but for a long time most citizens also considered themselves British. In recent years, though, rising regional identity has undermined the “united” in United Kingdom.

Like Scotland, Wales has its own assembly, nationalist aspirations and few Conservative supporters. Northern Ireland has its own legislature and distinctive politics defined by the Catholic-Protestant divide.

That leaves many in England—home to 53 million of Britain’s 64 million people—asking: “What about us?”

English discontent has found an outlet in UKIP, which argues that Britain has had its identity diluted by immigration and its independence undermined by EU membership.

Its supporters live primarily in northeast and southeast England, and political scientist Rob Ford, co-author of UKIP study “Revolt on the Right,” said they feel a strong sense of English—rather than Brit-

ish—nationalism.

“It’s George crosses as much as Union Jacks, and this perception that the English are getting a raw deal out of the Union—that the English voice isn’t being heard and the Scottish voice is,” he said.

UKIP got almost 13 percent of the vote in Thursday’s election, but only one seat in Parliament thanks to a British election system that allocates seats based on winner-takes-all races in each of 650 constituencies. That’s another spur for members’ anger: the SNP, whose support is more concentrated, got just under 5 percent of the vote and 56 seats.

Cameron’s challenge is to defuse grievances at home while overcoming a crisis in Britain’s relationship with Europe.

The rise of UKIP has emboldened the Euroskeptic wing of Cameron’s Conservative Party, and made him promise a referendum on EU membership by 2017. Cameron wants to remain in the EU, provided Britain can extract concessions on the free movement of citizens between member states.

That is far from certain. European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker said he was ready “to strike a fair deal for the U.K. in the EU.” But European leaders may have little appetite for granting major reforms to Britain after years of griping about Brussels from U.K. politicians.

## Video: Taliban downed Pakistan helicopter carrying diplomats

**ISLAMABAD** (AP)—A militant video purports to show Taliban fighters with a surface-to-air missile, claiming they used a similar one to shoot down a Pakistani helicopter carrying diplomats.

The video, obtained by The Associated Press, includes a message from the Pakistani Taliban claiming they fired a missile from a distance of 3 kilometers (1.9 miles) to down the helicopter Friday.

“The missile hit the tail rotor,” a written message in Urdu says at the video’s start.

The crash killed the ambas-

sadors to Pakistan from the Philippines and Norway and the wives of the ambassadors from Malaysia and Indonesia, as well as three Pakistani crew members. Twelve passengers, many of them diplomats, were injured.

Military officials could not be immediately reached Sunday to discuss the video. Previously, Pakistan said a technical failure caused the crash and dismissed an earlier Taliban claim they shot down the helicopter as opportunistic.

However, the surface-to-air missile shown in the video ap-

peared real. In the video, a masked militant discusses the missile’s parts, while another portion shows what appears to be a hand-drawn picture discussing how a missile can strike a helicopter’s tail rotor.

The video was released late Saturday via militant websites and corresponded to other messages distributed by the Pakistani Taliban, though the AP could not independently verify it. Militants in Afghanistan and Pakistan do have access to surface-to-air missiles.

Pakistani security forces have been battling militants in the

than half of Scottish votes for her party by saying the SNP would make Scotland’s voice heard in London.

Cameron argued that a minority Labour government would have to rely for support on the separatist SNP—and that would destabilize Britain.

Scottish Labour leader Jim Murphy, defeated in the tidal wave that saw the SNP win

country’s northwestern tribal regions bordering Afghanistan for the past several years, though the fighting took on a new urgency after a Taliban attack in December on a military school killed 150 people, many of them children.

The helicopter’s crash site Friday in Naltar is several hundred kilometers (miles) from the North Waziristan tribal area, where fighting recently has been focused.

Aircraft and helicopter crashes have happened previously in Pakistan, a nation of 180 million people.

## Migrants in Italy toil to put food on Europeans’ plates

**SYRACUSE, Sicily** (AP)—Colorful plastic boxes lie evenly spaced on a freshly turned field, ready to be filled with potatoes destined for the plates of diners across Europe. The 14 men lining up to pluck them from the rich soil of eastern Sicily are almost all newcomers to a continent where many eye them with a mix of pity and suspicion.

The desperate quests of record numbers of migrants to cross the Mediterranean have been well-documented. But few know that those who make it here often spend years trapped in an immigration limbo where the only way to make money is to do the back-breaking farm labor that locals shun - but which is critical to feeding the continent.

This week, Interior Minister

Angelino Alfano suggested that the newcomers do volunteer work while they wait for their asylum requests to be processed. They are more likely, however, to work under-the-table to earn cash to send home or to fund the next leg of their journeys north.

“The work is good,” said Khamsis, a 33-year-old from Sudan who was harvesting potato fields near Syracuse this week. He said he earned 50 euros (\$56) a day, more than the amount typically cited by aid groups. Payment is usually cash in hand, but often a local agent gets a cut.

In Italy, which has seen a near-record 26,228 migrants arrive so far this year, would-be refugees are housed in special centers where food and clothing are provided. Depending on

their immigration status, some receive pocket money in the form of vouchers or cash. Some are allowed to work while their asylum bids are being reviewed, others must wait months or even years before getting the necessary papers.

Those wishing to escape boredom and privation in overcrowded welcome centers are left with few choices, given Italy’s 13 percent unemployment rate. Most do find something, “whether it’s legal or on the black market,” said immigration lawyer Angela Ghennet Lupo.

For men, who make up the bulk of the migrants, this often means working on the farms of Italy’s southern breadbasket, which provides a sizeable chunk of the produce that feeds

Italy and countries beyond. Competition for jobs is fierce and some decide to move out of the migration centers to live in abandoned stone huts that dot the countryside, in order to be closer to the villages where workers are hired each morning.

“The majority lives in dilapidated shacks in the fields without any services, without water, without toilets,” said Lupo. “They cook with a little fire on the ground putting big pots on top and they work all day long.”

Such encampments aren’t marked on any maps, but locals know where to find them.

“The countryside is big here. You may not see them, but they are there,” said Safi Adem, a 38-year-old from Sudan, who offered to show reporters a site.

## WORLD BRIEFS

## Typhoon intensifies, closes in on PH’s northern tip

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—A powerful typhoon gained strength Sunday as it zeroed in on the northeastern tip of the Philippines, where some 1,400 people were moved to safety from coastal areas exposed to floods and storm surges. Typhoon Noul is packing winds of 185 kilometers (115 miles) per hour and gusts of up to 220 kph (136 mph). It is forecast to clip the northern Cagayan province, making landfall in Santa Ana township on Sunday afternoon or evening then veering north into the open sea toward southern Japan. Some 1,400 people have moved to evacuation centers in neighboring Isabela province, where earlier forecasts had said the typhoon would first hit, said Norma Talosig, the civil defense regional director. She said that officials in coastal Santa Ana town also prepared to move people to safer grounds and had enough supplies in stock.

## North Korea says it tests ballistic missile from submarine

**PYONGYANG, North Korea** (AP)—North Korea said Saturday that it successfully test-fired a newly developed ballistic missile from a submarine in what would be the latest display of the country’s advancing military capabilities. Hours after the announcement, South Korean officials said the North fired three anti-ship cruise missiles into the sea off its east coast. Experts in Seoul say the North’s military demonstrations and hostile rhetoric are attempts at wresting concessions from the United States and South Korea, whose officials have recently talked about the possibility of holding preliminary talks with the North to test its commitment to denuclearization. For the second straight day, North Korea said it would fire without warning at South Korean naval vessels that it claims have been violating its territorial waters off the west coast of the Korean Peninsula. South Korea’s presidential Blue House held an emergency national security council meeting to review the threat and discuss possible countermeasures.



# Life & Style

## 'Friends' creator introduces 'Grace & Frankie' on Netflix

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Marta Kauffman, co-creator, writer and executive producer of "Friends," knows that the comedy landscape has changed since millions tuned in weekly to see what was happening with Ross and Rachel.

"I believe someone at some point really needs to reinvent the sitcom. That's not working so great anymore," she said in a recent phone interview.

Comedy has changed, she said—noting that shows like Amazon's "Transparent" are less joke-oriented and more chilly than comedy once was.

"The characters aren't so nice. They're not always people that I would choose to bring into my bedroom, and I think that's part of what makes it hard to have a completely successful comedy," she said.

Kauffman's got her own comedy for Netflix called "Grace and Frankie," which is now up on the streaming site. It stars Jane Fonda and Lily Tom-



This photo provided by Netflix shows Jane Fonda, left, and Lily Tomlin in the Netflix Original Series "Grace and Frankie," premiering on Friday, May 8, 2015.

lin who play women whose husbands (played by Martin Sheen and Sam Waterston) leave them for each other.

Kauffman talks about making a show for people over 50 and why we won't see Dolly Parton on "Grace and Frankie"—at least for now.

**Associated Press: I can't help it but when I heard that**

**Jane Fonda and Lily Tomlin were doing a TV show together my mind immediately went to Dolly Parton.**

**Kauffman:** I know. Here's the thing. Until the show is established as a world of its own, when you bring Dolly Parton into it, who I love by the way. I love her, I love everything about her. When you bring her in what

it takes you to is, 'Oh, it's a 9-to-5' reunion.' We haven't established 'Grace and Frankie' yet as individuals so you can enjoy that without it taking you out of the show so that's why I'm hesitant.

**AP: Once you had Jane and Lily on board, was it easy to cast the rest of the show?**

**Kauffman:** I'm sure that's why we were able to get Sam and Martin. I also think that all four of them were really looking forward to a steady gig as the most important people in a show. There aren't a lot of shows where ... the four leads

are all of this age. I think that was exciting. I know it certainly was to Jane and Lily. I believe there was an element of that for Sam and Martin too.

**AP: Has Netflix shown any reservation at all about who their audience is for this show?**

**Kauffman:** Never once. If there was reservation we never heard it. What you have here is an opportunity to target a marginalized audience. Nobody targets a show for people over 50, no one. The baby boomers who are over 50 are the largest segment of our population. (Netf-

lix) saw this as an opportunity to reach out as a new audience for them.

**AP: A trend right now in entertainment is to do reboots or remakes. Will we ever see a reboot or a remake of 'Friends'?**

**Kauffman:** I hope not. (Laughs.) Will they try to redo it? I don't know. I don't know how that works honestly legally. We know we're not ever, ever, ever doing a reunion. I think it would be really stupid to do reboots. I don't understand reboots. It makes it feel like we've run out of ideas.

### SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

#### Father, aunt named co-guardians of Bobbi Kristina Brown

**ATLANTA (AP)**—Bobbi Kristina Brown's father and aunt have been appointed co-guardians of the ailing daughter of the late Whitney Houston. Lawyers for Bobby Brown and Pat Houston issued a joint statement Friday saying that judge Jeryl Debra Rosh appointed them to have joint responsibility in decisions related to Bobbi Kristina's care and medical needs. The statement also says lawyer Bedelia Hargrove was appointed conservator to oversee Bobbi Kristina's assets, including her rights and legal claims. The decision comes after the 22-year-old was found face down and unresponsive in a tub at her Georgia home on Jan. 31. She has been moved to an undisclosed location since being released from an Atlanta hospital in March. Brown's lawyer, Christopher Brown, said in a statement in April that Bobbi Kristina has opened her eyes.

#### Ozzy Osbourne gives \$10,000 to children's percussion group

**LOUISVILLE, Kentucky (AP)**—Ozzy Osbourne has donated \$10,000 to a Kentucky children's percussion group after watching a video of the students performing Osbourne's signature hit, "Crazy Train." The Courier-Journal reports the rock star saw a YouTube video of the Louisville Leopard Percussionists, a group comprised of more than 60 students, aged 7-14. The group

is a community nonprofit organization funded by donations, performance revenue and album sales. The students come from 48 schools in the Louisville area and practice after school. Founder Diane Downs uses a modular approach, teaching each student a specific part of a song. The group has performed with My Morning Jacket, Dave Samuels, Louie Bellson and Ruben Alvarez.

#### Kelly Ripa, John Oliver among recipients of GLAAD awards

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Kelly Ripa, John Oliver and Thomas Roberts are among the recipients of the 26th annual GLAAD Media Awards. The awards honor those who further GLAAD's mission of ensuring that stories of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people are heard through media outlets. A presentation ceremony was set for Saturday night in New York. Other honorees included Time magazine, The Salt Lake Tribune, Univision.com and Sports Illustrated. Ripa received GLAAD's Excellence in Media award for her discussion and interviews with LGBT guests and supporters on the talk show "Live! with Kelly and Michael." "Last Week Tonight with John Oliver" was honored as best talk show episode for a segment on Ugandan transgender activist Pepe Julian Onziema. TV journalist and anchor Roberts received the Vito Russo Award, named for GLAAD's co-founder and presented to an out LGBT media figure who has made a significant difference in promoting equality.

## Helen Hunt talks new film 'Ride' and plotting her TV return

**NEW YORK (AP)**—When Helen Hunt met with Australian actor Brenton Thwaites to audition for the role of her son in "Ride"—a movie she wrote and directed—the actress liked him but didn't think he was right for the part.

"I wrote it as a love story between a mother and a son, so it was all about who was gonna be this boy and Brenton came in to audition," Hunt recalls. "I didn't know what to do because he's gorgeous and kind, clearly on his way to being a movie star, no doubt about it, and totally wrong for what I wrote."



Hunt

But Thwaites wouldn't take no for an answer and asked if he could have another audition.

"That reminded me of me," said Hunt in a recent interview. "I got some of the best parts I've ever had by saying I'd like to come back in"—like her role in 1997's "As Good as It Gets," which won her a best actress Oscar.

After a couple of auditions, Hunt said director James L. Brooks told her, "'I'm really close to thinking you're right for it,' and I remember telling him, 'You should be sure. I want you

to be sure.' ... I wanted him to believe in me."

In "Ride," Hunt plays a single mom who is completely devoted to her college-aged son. When he drops out of school and moves cross country to surf, she follows him and takes up the sport, too. Along the way, she begins to re-establish her own identity.

Hunt, 51, said she "didn't bother" wondering whether someone else could play her part because she didn't think anyone else would "put up with what I put up with. I was in the ocean for nine hours at a stretch."

Fortunately, surfing and the ocean are important to Hunt in real-life.

## National phone registry reduces unwanted calls

**DEAR ABBY:** Many years ago you published a "Do Not Call" number for unsolicited phone calls. It worked great for a long time. I'm now starting to receive a lot of these calls again.

I am elderly (88), arthritic, and I struggle getting out of my chair to answer the phone because I think it's a family member or friend calling. Do you still have that number? I think a lot of people would like to have it.

CARRIE IN QUINCY, MASS.

**DEAR CARRIE:** I went searching for the number of the Do Not Call Registry and found it in my Consumer Action Handbook, which is published by the GSA Federal Citizen Information Center. The toll-free number is 888-382-1222.

If, after your number has been in the National Registry for three months, you continue to receive calls, you can file a formal complaint using the same toll-free number. This will stop most—but not all—telemarketing calls. Unfortunately, calls from political organizations, charities, telephone surveyors and some organizations with which you already have a relationship are still permitted.

**DEAR ABBY:** My daughter is having a baby. Her baby shower is being given by one of her close friends. I made it clear that I did not want to know the gender of the baby before the birth, that I'm content to enjoy the suspense. I did not attend the "reveal" party

that was held several months ago.

When my shower invitation arrived, it was pink and began with "It's A Girl!" Isn't it rude to ignore another person's feelings even if you think they are silly?

I won't say anything about this to my daughter because I want her to enjoy her party, but maybe this will help others who would prefer waiting for the surprise. Am I wrong to have expected my invitation to be non-gender-specific?

GRANNY-TO-BE

**DEAR GRANNY-TO-BE:** Yes, I think you are wrong. In this day of sonograms and gender-reveal parties, you are in the minority with your preference to be kept in the dark. Rather than being rude, what probably happened was a person who was unaware of your preference sent your invitation as part of a batch—and pink is the theme of the party.

**DEAR ABBY:** My longtime 91-year-old friend is healthy but suffers from dementia. Her frequent fearful thoughts are centered around (imaginary) intruders who lurk somewhere upstairs or in the garage and are robbing her.

I try to tell her this is only in her mind, that they are not real, to no avail. What else can I say or do? Her son comes three times a week to clean her house and cook good meals for her, but he doesn't live there.

CONCERNED FRIEND OUT WEST

### DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



**DEAR CONCERNED FRIEND:** Talk to her son and find out whether he knows what she has been telling you. If he has removed anything from his mother's house, he should remind her. If he hasn't—and nothing is missing—then his mother's doctor should be made aware that she is anxious and fearful and may be having hallucinations, because there may be a medication that can calm her.

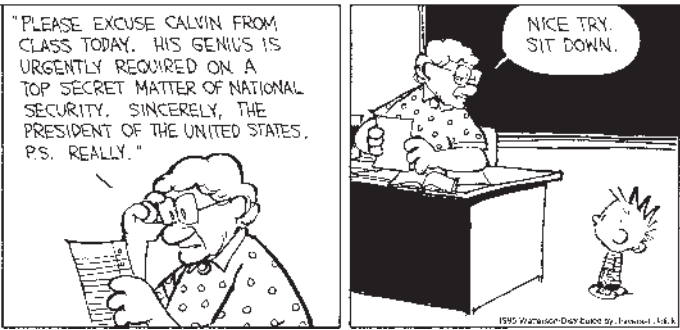
**P.S. It couldn't hurt to check the attic for critters.**

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

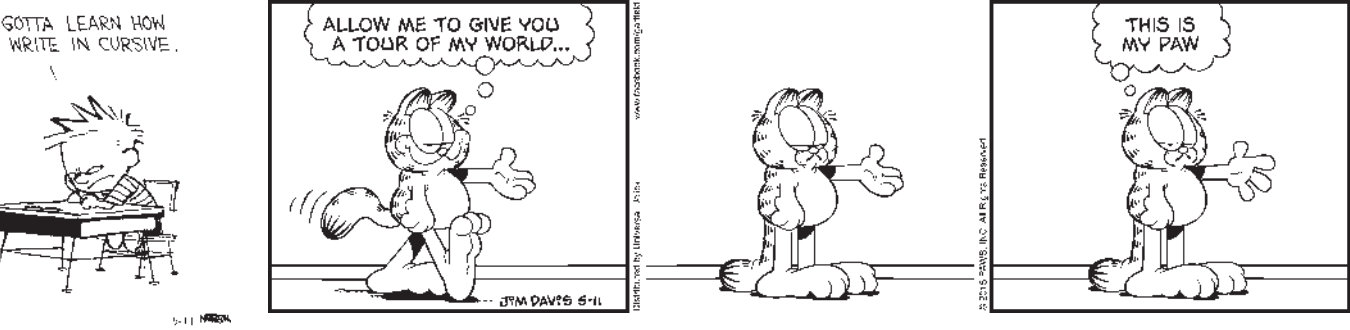


Pastimes

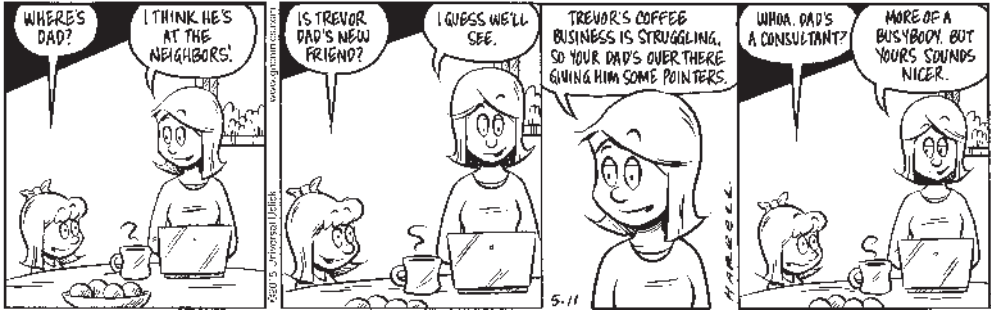
Calvin and Hobbes



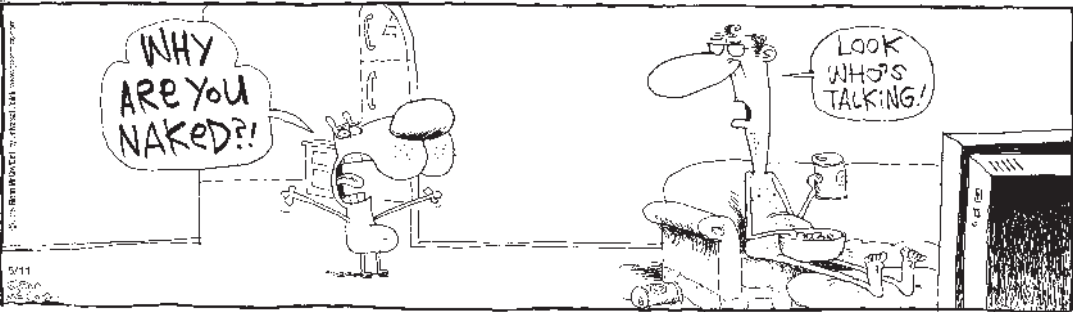
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The Duplex



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Amaze-ment, plus

4 Glistened

9 Insulation material (Abbr.)

12 That girl

13 Melodic and harmonic

14 Golf ball's position

15 Tinsel-town

17 Help

18 Having a bug

19 Villain, slangily

21 Asian capital

24 "It Roman-tic?"

25 Sprite

26 Lorne Michaels' brain-child, for short

28 Quarrels

31 Union payments

33 Obtained

35 Any time now

36 Refine metal

38 "Holy cow!"

40 Kimono sash

41 Bad witness

43 In the thick of

45 Hallux

47 Scott Pelley's network

48 Fuss

49 Glenn Miller classic

54 Virgo neighbor

55 Waste conduit

56 Pair

57 Pop

58 Crocodile

59 Blunder

DOWN

1 Bonfire residue

2 Personal question

3 Conger, for one

4 Fashions' din

5 Coyotes' din

6 Yoko of music

7 Actress Watts

8 Firstborn

9 Green-house buy

10 Henry —

11 Relin-quish

16 Back talk

20 Black-birds

21 Danson and Koppel

22 Grad

23 James Brown hit

27 Journal

29 Watch chains

30 Fit of peevish-ness

32 Narrow cut

34 Head of the class?

37 Follower of Lao-tzu

39 Hearth remains

42 Actress Zellweger

44 Doctrine

45 Hairless

46 Notion

50 Old air-line initials

51 Praiseful verse

52 "— Town"

53 "Le Coq —"

Solution time: 26 mins.

Friday's answer 5-8

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Holly Valance, 32; Amanda Freitag, 43; Frances Fisher, 63; Eric Burdon, 74.

**Happy Birthday:** Learn from past mistakes and do your best to keep whatever happens this year in perspective. Clearing your mind and witness-ing what's going on around you will lead to a humbling but successful future. Don't judge un-less you want to be judged. Instead, posture your-self for advancement and reaching your goals. Enjoy each moment. Your numbers are 2, 9, 13, 21, 32, 34, 47.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Don't keep your feelings all locked up. As long as you extend warmth, compassion and affection while expressing your feelings, you will come out on top. Work to encourage important partnerships and you will strengthen your position. \*\*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Find out all you can about everyone and everything. The more information you gather, the easi-er it will be to make a good decision. Someone will discourage you from following your own path. Do what feels right, not what others want. \*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Keep your life honest and realistic. Sharing personal information will backfire. Focus on self-improvement and keeping a low profile for the time being. A little time spent on yourself instead of everyone around you will pay off. \*\*\*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Get fit. Do whatever it takes to improve your health and encourage a new routine that is geared toward looking and feeling your best.

You can't put a price on good health. Love is on the rise, but so is temptation. \*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Be careful as you move forward. Not everyone you work with will be on your side. Argu-ments will spin out of control if you are too gul-ible or sensitive. Focus on positive change and stabilizing your position. Don't spend unneces-sarily. \*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Keep in mind that what you say might be used against you. Strategy coupled with phys-ical work will help you reach the winners' circle. Haste makes waste, so take your time and do things right the first time. \*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Don't med-dle in other people's affairs or let anyone interfere in your life. Stick to your agen-da and don't count on others to help. Use your own skills, knowledge and insight to guide you to the finish line. \*\*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Don't worry about what everyone else is doing. Follow a creative idea to completion and try to get what you want without getting into an argument. Incentives plus diplomacy will help you dismiss outside interference. \*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** En-joy what you have worked so hard to ac-cumulate, but don't trust an outsider with your cash, possessions or personal information. Talk over any improvements you want to make with a partner and work as a team to bring about positive changes at home. \*\*\*\*

**EUGENIA LAST**

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Ac-cept the inevitable, but don't give in to anyone with a bad idea. Focus on phys-ical activities that will help you blow off steam and put things in perspective. You can make posi-tive changes to your surroundings, but don't go over budget. \*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Say lit-tle to friends, relatives and neighbors. Do your own thing and refuse to get involved in any joint ventures. Take time to research a pro-ject you want to pursue. Knowledge is the key to becoming successful. Prepare to make positive changes. \*\*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Get rid of any negativity in your life. You are best to focus on who you are and the personal changes you want to make. It's up to you to move forward and leave the past behind you. \*\*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You are perceptive, unique and innocent. You are kind and thoughtful.

Eugenia's website—[eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com), Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eu-genia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

**SUDOKU**

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★ 5/11

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

3	4	5	8	7	6	1	2	9
8	1	2	9	4	5	6	7	3
6	7	9	2	1	3	4	5	8
7	3	4	5	8	2	9	6	1
2	8	6	3	9	1	7	4	5
9	5	1	4	6	7	8	3	2
4	2	8	7	3	9	5	1	6
5	6	7	1	2	8	3	9	4
1	9	3	6	5	4	2	8	7

**WONDERWORD** By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizon-tally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE BERLIN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Solution: 9 letters

L B C M U I D O P C B L O C K  
A A H L N I L O I V R E Y O F  
C S A E A E S S A R R E T N R  
I S M S R R U N I L R E B N U  
S O B Y N M I S O P R A N O H  
S O E M N E A N E G A T S I E  
A N R P E A V N E R I F L S R  
L C O H W Z M O N T A A S E  
C C H O I R Z R H N B C E C  
N D L N A G R O E T U O U O  
U F C Y R E L L A G E T V R R  
F L U T E K A P E L L E S D  
T O S R E H C S E S L I B S I  
W O L U B N O V S N A H O R N  
P S T U D E N T S E A T I N G

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Last Friday's Answer: Drill

To purchase WONDERWORD books, visit [www.WonderWordBooks.com](http://www.WonderWordBooks.com), or call 1-800-642-6480.

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1 General Manager (Accounting): \$1,000-1,800/mo. 5 years of managerial experience required. Must have majored in accounting. 10 years of accounting experience required. Korean writing and speaking fluency required. Email resume to [hps@hanmisaipan.com](mailto:hps@hanmisaipan.com).

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# Pierce's buzzer-beater lifts Wiz past Hawks, 103-101



**WASHINGTON (AP)—**It was a play added to the Washington Wizards' offense a day earlier, and it was drawn up for a guy, Paul Pierce, who's been doing this sort of thing for the better part of two decades.

With three defenders near him, Pierce made a fallaway, 21-foot jumper that went in off the backboard at the buzzer to lift the Wizards over the Atlanta Hawks 103-101 on Saturday night, despite playing without John Wall and after letting a 21-point lead evaporate.

As he left the court after giving the Wizards a 2-1 lead in the Eastern Conference semifinal series, Pierce was asked on TV whether he called "Bank!" on the winner.

"I called, 'Game!'" Pierce declared.

He had more fun at his news conference.

"Usually," Pierce said, "I like to save those type of shots for later rounds."

Told that Dennis Schroder, one of the Hawks who tried in vain to disrupt the game-winner, called it "a lucky shot," Pierce chuckled. Then, referring to his lengthy career, Pierce retorted: "Well, I guess Schroder is going to say that, because he's a little young. ... He hasn't been able to see it over the last 17 years."

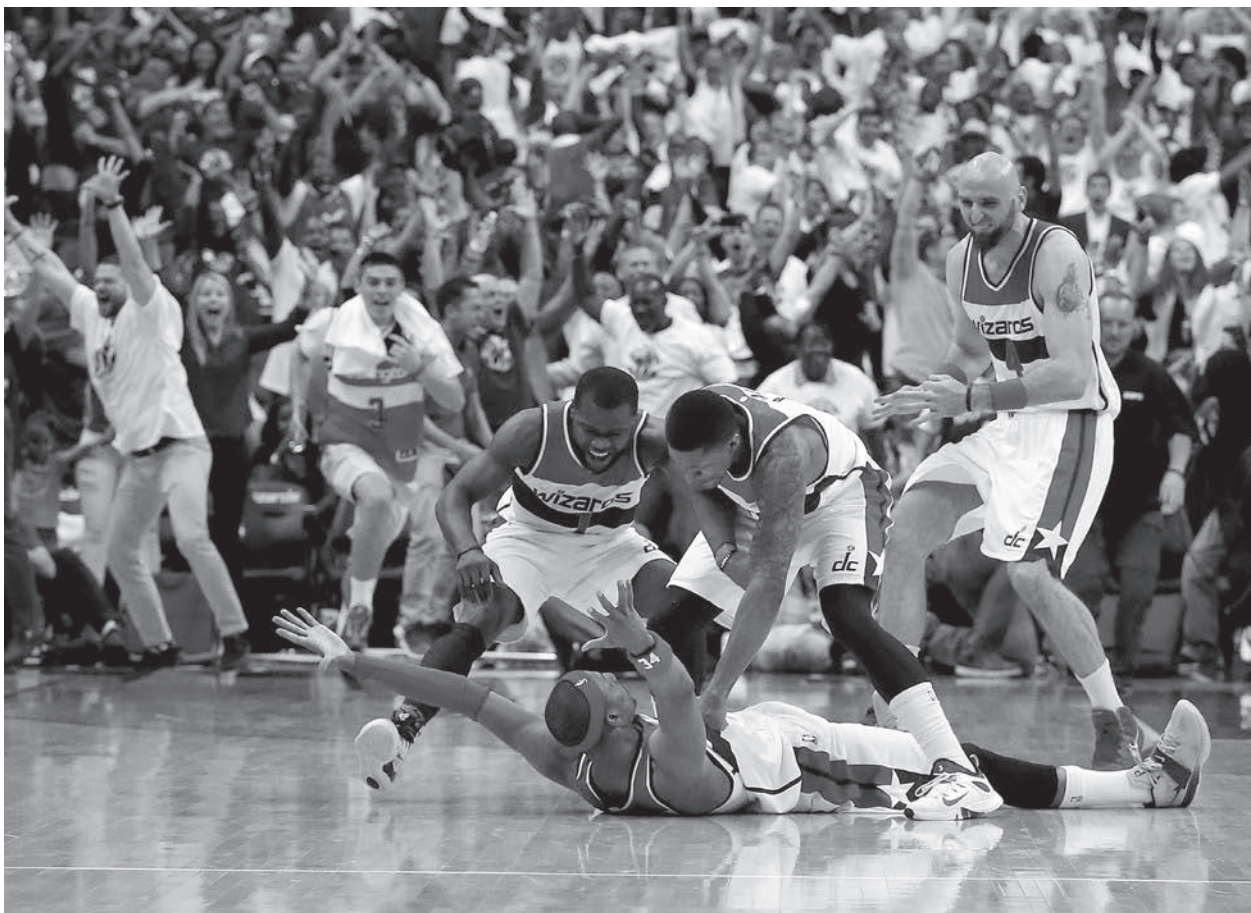
Pierce is 37, and he has a nerve in his back that acts up from time to time, including in the first half Saturday. He won a championship with the Boston Celtics in 2008, and is well aware that time is running out on his career.

"I'm still soaking it up," Pierce said, "because I don't have too many more of these left."

Game 4 in the best-of-seven series is Monday night at Washington.

It was the second straight day a bank shot at the buzzer won an NBA playoff game. Derrick Rose hit a 3 off the glass to give Chicago a 99-96 victory over Cleveland on Friday.

On Saturday, Washington was missing Wall, its All-Star point guard, for a second consecutive game because of a



Washington Wizards players mob Paul Pierce on the floor after his game winning shot as time expired after Game 3 of the second round of the NBA basketball playoffs Saturday, May 9, 2015, in Washington.

broken left hand, but it was the Hawks who seemed out of sorts most of the evening.

The Wizards led by 21 with less than 10 minutes left.

"We got comfortable," said Bradley Beal, who had 17 points and eight assists for Washington. "We thought the game was over."

Even Hawks coach Mike Budenholzer put it this way: "You feel like you're not going to be able to close that gap."

Yet Budenholzer's small lineup of little-used reserves made things interesting.

A 17-0 run got the visitors within three points with less than 3 1/2 minutes remaining.

And Mike Muscala's 3-pointer with 14.1 seconds left tied it.

But Pierce came through as the clock

hit zero, releasing the ball with about a second to go, then falling to his back on the court with arms aloft.

"Took my time. You know, wanted to make sure I got the shot off with no time on the clock," Pierce said. "I've been in those situations many times."

Beal was the first teammate to reach Pierce, throwing punches at the veteran's chest.

The rest of the Wizards then mobbed Pierce, with Wall jumping up and down near the pile. When Pierce rose, Wall pulled off his teammate's red headband.

## Grizzlies 99, Warriors 89

In Memphis, Tenn., Steve Kerr says his Golden State Warriors are going through a learning process as a very young team.

The Memphis Grizzlies are using their hefty postseason experience to make the lesson as painful as possible.

Zach Randolph scored 22 points and Marc Gasol added 21 points and 15 rebounds as the Grizzlies beat the Warriors 99-89 on Saturday night to take a 2-1 lead in their Western Conference semifinal.

"This was a huge win for our franchise, a huge win for our team," Memphis coach Dave Joerger said. "The crowd was fantastic."

Mike Conley and Courtney Lee both finished with 11 points for Memphis, which has yet to lose this postseason with Conley in the lineup.

MVP Stephen Curry finished with 23 points for Golden State but was 8 of 21 from the field, including 2 of 10

outside the arc. Klay Thompson had 20 points, and Harrison Barnes added 16.

"I have to play better for us to win games, especially on the road," Curry said. "I hold myself to a high standard. I haven't reached it yet. So looking forward to the challenge of getting that level in Game 4, setting the tone and (it) could be a different outcome."

For a second straight game, the Grizzlies made the Warriors look nothing like the team that was the NBA's best home or away during the regular season. The Warriors missed seven straight 3s during one stretch, several wide-open looks, and the Grizzlies harassed them into a handful of ugly turnovers.

The Warriors went just 6 of 26 from 3-point range, tying their season-low at 23.1 percent, and 19 of 28 at the free throw line.

"They're learning," Kerr, the first-year coach, said of his Warriors. "It's part of the process. You see teams go through this all the time in the playoffs. It's the only way to figure it out, to go through the pain of losing a game like tonight."

The Grizzlies improved to 7-2 overall in Game 3s since 2011 and 6-1 when playing that game on their home court. With Game 4 at home on Monday night, the Grizzlies have their sights set on ousting the West's No. 1 seed for the third time in their five-year playoff run as they try to reach their second conference final in three years.

"We understand what our strengths are, and of course at the end of games we're not going to panic," Gasol said. "We might not play great or we might not make the shot or we might make mistakes or we might get really slow. But we're going to stay in the moment. We're going to play the next possession always, and we got to try to get stops."

Memphis outscored Golden State 46-32 in the paint and outrebounded the Warriors 44-39. The Grizzlies forced 17 turnovers they turned in 22 points, offsetting the Warriors' 22 fast break points.

## Boxing loss could be Pacquiao's political win



### MANILA, Philippines

(AP)—Manny Pacquiao lost his biggest fight in the ring, but that won't stop him from plotting a bigger comeback—in the political arena that is.

In a country where elections are also entertainment and political programs secondary, candidates often win because of star power and money.

Pacquiao, who earned more than \$100 million despite losing the Fight of the Century against Floyd Mayweather Jr. last weekend, certainly has that working for him.

But can he overcome his poor record as an incumbent congressman, his humble origins and lack of political savvy to win a Senate seat, or even higher office?

Having established himself as a local politician, the natural path for the 36-year-old Pacquiao would be the 24-seat Senate, a national position, which has been used as a springboard for vice president or president.

His most ardent supporters say he can be a future president.

The Bible-quoting boxer, who by law cannot run for president before turning 40, has said his "thoughts on the presidency ... are merely aspirational." His first presidential race would be in 2022.

That could be harder than defeating Mayweather, but he can take comfort in the thought that Filipinos love the underdog. His rags-to-riches story—rising from extreme poverty to becoming the wealthiest Philippine congressman—has captured the imagination of the millions in his Southeast Asian nation.

Pacquiao the underdog played well at home after it was disclosed that even with his shoulder injured he still fought aggressively against Mayweather, said political analyst and public administration professor Prospero de Vera.

He said the way Pacquiao lost the fight "actually enhances his political viability" and could

help him win as senator in elections next year.

But the higher the office Pacquiao seeks, the fiercer the competition and the closer the public scrutiny he will face.

Two popular athletes have been elected to the Senate in the last 30 years. One had first served as a city councilor, the other was a businessman and sportsman before running for the upper house. Both worked full time as legislators, unlike Pacquiao.

But, winning an election "most of the time is not connected with being prepared for the job," de Vera said.

So far, Pacquiao doesn't have much to show as one of 292 representatives in the lower house—he hasn't successfully sponsored a single bill and is a top absentee in the chamber over the past five years.

Many Filipinos see Pacquiao's loss as his cue to retire from boxing. For them, Pacquiao has already sealed his legacy not just as one of the world's greatest

boxers but also as a source of national pride. Others want him to also withdraw from politics and enjoy the fruits of his 20-year boxing career.

Yet others don't believe he will retire anytime soon from boxing or politics. For one thing, his fight winnings are too big to ignore.

Pacquiao, who according to Forbes was worth \$82 million before the latest fight, is often approached for financial support by individual constituents or even entire villages for anything from a community basketball court to funding for fiestas and scholarships. He also shoulders the expenses of his large entourage of relatives, friends and an assortment of hangers-on.

"I think he is not yet ready to retire," said Raul Martinez, mayor of Pacquiao's hometown of Kiamba and his wedding godfather. "Not everything is in place yet. He has so many commitments that if you sum up (his money), it won't be enough."

Doling out benefits and building a patronage network is a Filipino politician's staple.

Pacquiao gives at least 50,000 pesos (\$1,125) to each of the 144 villages in his impoverished southern Sarangani province and over 500,000 pesos (\$11,285) to each of its seven municipalities every year just for fiestas—like celebrations of local patron saints. He also pays professional fees for show-biz personalities he invites to appear at the parties, Martinez said.

Martinez said he will try to persuade Pacquiao to run in next year's election for governor instead of senator for practical reasons—he will most likely be unopposed and he can save a lot more money on a local election compared to a national campaign for a Senate seat, where he is also expected to contribute to the campaigns of provincial governors and thousands of municipal officials whose support he will seek to win votes.

Some fans still want a rematch because they felt cheated by the lackluster Pacquiao-Mayweather bout, which boxing analyst Ed Tolentino calls

the "Fiasco of the Century."

Tolentino said that pending investigations by Nevada authorities into whether there was fraud or "other shenanigans" in the bout, "the rematch is as good as dead."

Pacquiao lost by unanimous decision after 12 rounds. He said he thought he won despite his injured right shoulder. He is facing several damage suits in the United States for alleged fraud in connection with the injury from people who spent money to watch or bet on the fight.

"When the injury had not yet been disclosed, people were blaming Floyd Mayweather for the lackluster fight because he resorted to hit-and-run tactics, but now people are blaming Manny Pacquiao for robbing them of the 'fight of the century,'" Tolentino said.

He said, however, that Pacquiao can still retire without soiling his record as a champion. "I do not believe that his legacy will be defined by the performance in the Mayweather fight," he said.



# Harper 9th-inning HR lifts Nationals over Braves, 8-6



**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Bryce Harper did it again, extending his remarkable homer streak with a two-run shot in the bottom of the ninth inning that sent the Washington Nationals over the Atlanta Braves 8-6 on Saturday.

Harper homered for the sixth time in his last three games, one off the major league record set by Shawn Green in 2002.

At 22, Harper had already become the youngest player in big league history to hit five home runs in two games. His one-out drive pushed the Nationals, a preseason favorite to win the World Series, over .500 for the first time this year.

Harper homered three times vs. Miami on Wednesday and connected twice against Atlanta on Friday night. His teammates ripped his jersey in the home-plate scrum, then Max Scherzer punctuated the party with the team's newest victory celebration—he poured chocolate sauce over Harper during a postgame interview.

The Nationals blew a five-run lead before rebounding in the ninth against Cody Martin (1-1). Drew Storen (1-0) pitched the top of the ninth for the win.

## Orioles 6, Yankees 2

In New York, Chris Davis hit one of Baltimore's three home runs, Wei-Yin Chen won for the first time this season and the Orioles snapped a four-game slide.

Jimmy Paredes had three hits, including a solo homer, and Alejandro De Aza added a two-run drive off Chase Whitley to give the Orioles their first win this week in New York. Baltimore lost a pair of inter-league games to the Mets at Citi Field before dropping the first two in a four-game series at Yankee Stadium.

Delmon Young knocked in two runs to build up the cushion for Chen (1-1), who scattered five hits over seven innings. He struck out a season-high seven and walked one, yielding only John Ryan Murphy's sacrifice fly.

## Astros 6, Angels 5

In Anaheim, Calif., Chris Carter and Colby Rasmus hit two-run homers and Dallas Keuchel pitched into the seventh inning in Houston's victory.

Jose Altuve also hit an early homer off Matt Shoemaker (2-3) for the AL West-leading Astros, who won for just the second time in six games following their 10-game winning streak.

Mike Trout homered and had three hits for the Angels, but was intentionally walked by Chad Qualls after Kole Calhoun's two-out RBI double in the ninth.

Qualls then got Albert Pujols to ground to shortstop, completing his third save and ending

Pujols' 11-game hitting streak.

Keuchel (4-0) wasn't in his unhittable April form, but the left-hander remained unbeaten while his ERA rose from 0.80 to 1.39.

## Padres 6, Diamondbacks 4, 12 innings

In Phoenix, Justin Upton made up for an earlier gaffe with a home run in the 12th inning and San Diego beat Arizona in a game that included Padres closer Craig Kimbrel's first blown save since June.

Arizona had forced extra innings when pinch-hitter Danny Dorn doubled in two runs off Kimbrel to tie it in the ninth.

Dorn, who has spent nearly all of his 10 professional seasons in the minors, lined Kimbrel's 98 mph pitch down the right field line after Jordan Pacheco walked and Aaron Hill singled. It was Dorn's third hit, first for extra bases, and first RBIs in the majors. He ended Kimbrel's string of 35 consecutive saves, nine this season.

Upton, the ex-Diamondback whose ill-advised dive for David Peralta's hit turned into an RBI triple in the fourth inning, also singled in a run in the ninth.

## Mets 3, Phillies 2

In Philadelphia, Juan Lagares homered and Jonathon Niese pitched seven strong innings to lead New York.

Niese (3-2) improved to 5-0 in his last seven starts against Philadelphia, surrendering two runs and five hits with six strikeouts and one walk. Neither of the runs was earned.

Lagares, not known for his power, lined Aaron Harang's 1-0 pitch into the seats in the left with one out in the seventh to put the Mets up 3-2. The two-run homer, Lagares' first of the season and ninth of his career, broke an 0-for-16 skid.

Harang (3-3), who was pitching on his 37th birthday, gave up three runs—two earned—and eight hits with two strikeouts and one walk in seven innings.

## Marlins 6, Giants 2

In San Francisco, Marcell Ozuna homered off Madison Bumgarner in a three-run fourth inning and Miami beat San Francisco.

Jeff Baker and Adeiny Hechavarria added RBI doubles in the fourth and Donovan Solano hit a two-run double in the eighth to help the Marlins win for the 12th time in their past 17 games in San Francisco.

David Phelps (2-0) allowed one run and six hits in six innings during another strong start in place of the injured Henderson Alvarez. Phelps has two wins and a 1.80 ERA in five starts since joining the rotation.

Bumgarner (3-2) pitched



**AP**  
Atlanta Braves' Nick Markakis (22) is safe at second as Washington Nationals shortstop Ian Desmond (20) follows through on his throw to first to get Andrelton Simmons out during the sixth inning of a baseball game, Saturday, May 9, 2015, in Washington.

and drove in four runs to lead Milwaukee.

Jean Segura added a solo shot and Khris Davis had three hits and three RBIs for Milwaukee, which finished with its season-high scoring total.

Davis, who came into the series hitting just .209, was 4 for 5 in Friday's loss to the Cubs.

Kyle Lohse (2-4) gave up four runs and seven hits in five innings for the Brewers.

Travis Wood (2-2) took the loss, allowing six runs—four earned—and six hits in four innings as the Cubs lost for the sixth time in eight games.

Chicago catcher David Ross pitched a scoreless eighth inning.

## Rays 7, Rangers 2

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Tampa Bay reliever Andrew Bellatti, who served jail time as a teen after a fatal car crash, was the winning pitcher in his major league debut as the Rays beat Texas.

The 23-year-old Bellatti (1-0) gave up one hit and one walk in 3 1-3 scoreless innings. He struck out two.

Bellatti was sentenced as a 19-year-old in 2010 to eight months in jail and five years' probation as the driver in an accident that killed another driver.

Bellatti served three months in California. He had written a letter to the widow of the victim, and she had asked the judge to release him early.

The former 12th-round draft pick left in the ninth with the bases loaded and one out. Brad Boxberger entered and got consecutive outs for his eighth save.

Ross Detwiler (0-4) took the loss.

## Mariners 7, Oakland 2

In Seattle, Robinson Cano had three hits and an RBI, and Seattle took advantage of Oakland's season-high four errors.

J.A. Happ (3-1) pitched five innings for the victory, allowing one run and four hits with two walks and eight strikeouts.

Nelson Cruz and Seth Smith also each had a pair of hits and an RBI for Seattle, which scored five runs on Oakland's most errors since Aug. 22, 2012, against Minnesota. The Athletics lead the majors with 32 miscues.

Jesse Hahn (1-3) gave up six runs and eight hits in 5 1-3 innings. He walked three and struck out four.

Mark Canha hit his fifth home run for the A's in the eighth, and Marcus Semien finished with three hits.

well other than the one big inning. He struck out a season-high 10 in five innings, including slugger Giancarlo Stanton three times. But the World Series MVP also allowed four extra-base hits, including three in the fourth.

## Blue Jays 7, Red Sox 1

In Toronto, Edwin Encarnacion hit a three-run homer, Josh Donaldson had three hits and Toronto beat Boston, handing the slumping Red Sox their seventh loss in eight games.

Encarnacion had two hits and walked twice. Donaldson went 3 for 5 with an RBI and scored two runs as Toronto won its third straight.

Russell Martin put the Blue Jays in front with a sacrifice fly in the first. It was the 24th first-inning run allowed by Boston in 30 games. They're 5-15 when the opposition scores first.

Donaldson hit an RBI single in the second and Encarnacion connected for a two-out homer in the fourth, his fifth.

Blue Jays right-hander Drew Hutchison (3-0) won for the first time in three starts, allowing one run and seven hits in five innings.

## Royals 6, Tigers 2

In Detroit, Alcides Escobar homered on the first pitch of the game and made a sparkling catch on Miguel Cabrera's line drive two innings later, leading Kansas City.

Jeremy Guthrie (2-2) allowed two runs in 7 1-3 innings for the Royals, who moved back into first place in the AL Central. The Tigers had taken a half-game lead by beating the Royals in a sloppily played series opener Friday night.

Anibal Sanchez (2-4) allowed six runs and nine hits in six innings, his ERA rising to 5.44 on the young season. Guthrie al-

lowed fewer than three runs for the first time this year.

## Twins 7, Indians 4

In Cleveland, Torii Hunter continued his torrid stretch with three hits, including a home run, and Minnesota beat Cleveland.

Hunter, who was 4 for 4 on Friday, extended his consecutive hit streak to seven at-bats with a solo homer in the first, a single in the third and an infield hit in the fifth. The streak ended in the sixth when shortstop Jose Ramirez booted his ground ball for an error.

Phil Hughes (2-4) won his second consecutive start, allowing one run in 6 1-3 innings. The Twins have won nine of 10 and are 17-7 since April 13.

Glen Perkins allowed two hits in the ninth, but recorded his 11th save.

Bruce Chen (0-1) gave up six runs in four-plus innings.

The Indians have lost four of five and have the worst record in the American League (10-19).

## Reds 10, White Sox 4, 1st game White Sox 8, Reds 2, 2nd game

In Chicago, Carlos Rodon pitched six innings for his first major league win, and Chicago beat Cincinnati for a split of their doubleheader.

Alexei Ramirez connected in each game for Chicago, including a solo drive in the opener for career homer No. 100. Avisail Garcia and Gordon Beckham went deep in the nightcap, helping the White Sox bounce back from an ugly 10-4 loss in the opener.

Rodon (1-0), the No. 3 overall pick in last year's draft, struck out eight—all swinging—and walked four in his first major league start.

Marlon Byrd hit a three-run homer in Cincinnati's seven-

run ninth in the opener, but the offense didn't carry over to the second game. Joey Votto went 3 for 4 with two RBIs after he missed the first game due to a suspension for making contact with an umpire.

In the first game, Johnny Cueto pitched into the ninth inning in his longest start of the year (3-3). He was working on a four-hitter before he was pulled with one out in Chicago's three-run ninth. J.J. Hoover finished for Cincinnati, which has won three of four.

Skip Schumaker had three hits and two RBIs as Cincinnati improved to 4-14 against Chicago with its first road win against the White Sox since a 7-5 victory on June 25, 1998.

## Pirates 7, Cardinals 5

In Pittsburgh, Jordy Mercer broke out of a deep slump with a go-ahead two-run double and Pittsburgh rallied to beat St. Louis.

Mercer, who began the day hitting .186, sent a fastball off the wall in center field with one out in the sixth to give the Pirates the lead. Mercer finished with three RBIs, nearly doubling his season total.

Neil Walker added his second homer and the Pirates ended a seven-game losing streak to the Cardinals. Rob Scallion (1-2) earned the win in relief. Mark Melancon worked a perfect ninth for his sixth save.

Jhonny Peralta and Jason Heyward had two hits each. Both were on base in the second inning when Yadier Molina hit into the franchise's first triple play in nearly 12 years. Carlos Martinez (3-1) picked up his first loss.

## Brewers 12, Cubs 4

In Milwaukee, Jason Rogers hit his first career home run, Gerardo Parra also homered



# Student athletes take NMSA spotlight

By JON PEREZ

jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Athletics' Donovan Ada, volleyball's Knochlynn Gechig, and netters Luther



Lizama



Lee



Ada



Gechig

Lizama and Carol Lee were voted as co-Male and Female Student Athletes of the Month in last week's Northern Marianas Sports Association monthly meeting at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium conference room.

Student athletes were the only nominees as no sports association submitted an entry for the Male Athlete of the Month, while shuttler Vilma Reyes was

the lone name for the female athlete category.

Ada, who is currently competing in the 2015 Oceania Athletics Association Area Championships in Cairns, Australia, topped all of his three events in the preliminaries of the 12th McDonald's-Public School System All Schools Championships.

The 14-year-old Marianas High School freshman ruled the men's long jump and discus and javelin throws.

Gechig is a member of the CNMI All-Stars team that will be competing in a tournament in Yap set from Jul 18 to 31. She's a leader on and off the court where she earned 22 points awarded by the Northern

Mariana Islands Volleyball Association.

NMIVA gives eligibility points to all players based on attending practices, participating in fundraising events,

and playing in tournaments for them to remain active and part of the team.

Lizama is the top ranked CNMI boys' Under-18 netter after winning the age division

in last month's CNMI Junior Championships, the Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Federation's season-ending event that is worth 1.5 times the ranking points.

The 14-year-old is currently in Guam where he will try his luck in the qualifying draw of the 2015 Calvo's Select-Care International Tennis Federation Junior Championships, which starts today.

He is also entered in the qualifying draw of the 2015 IT&E Northern Marianas Ju-

nior Championships, hosted by Saipan next week.

Lee, on the other hand, claimed her fourth U18 division crown when she defeated Mikayla Lopez in the finals of the CNMI Junior Championships to seal her status as the CNMI's current No. 1 female player.

Quinn Amog (volleyball), Friendly Joy Pena (athletics), and badminton players Janelle Pangelinan and Mikiya Takahashi were the other student athlete nominees.

## CNMI players join Guam Jr. ITF tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

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REPORTER

Nine CNMI players are in Guam to compete in the Calvo's Selectcare ITF Junior Championships 2015 at the Rick Ninete Tennis Centre in Hagatna.

Colin Ramsey led the group that left Saipan last Thursday to participate in the Grade 5 event. Ramsey is in the 32-player main draw of the boys singles, while Tommy Choi, Luther Lizama, Michael Ren, and Steven Lee were scheduled to play in the qualifying draw over the weekend.



Ramsey is unranked in the boys singles and will duel Yohan Sung of South Korea in the first round. Hong Kong's Ching Lam is the top-ranked player in the tournament at No. 543 and is also seeded first in

the main draw. Chinese-Taipei's Shao-Min Ko, who is ranked No. 638, is seeded second and is at the bottom half of the bracket.

Thailand, Japan, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Singapore also have players in the main draw on the boys singles.

In the girls division, Mikayla Lopez and Negahr Rastguir made it to the singles main

draw, while Tania Tan and Carol Lee (as of May 7's posting at Junior ITF website) are entered in the qualifying tournament. The Guam-hosted Junior ITF event will from May 11 to 16 and majority of the off-island players joining the six-day tournament will head to Saipan next week for the 2015 IT&E Northern Marianas Junior Championships.

Lopez will be paired against Singapore's Ashley Kei Yim in the first round, while Rastguir will face Japan's Runa Ichinose. Both Lopez and Rastguir are unranked in the main draw, which has Japan's Satoko Sue-no and Ayumi Hirata as Top 2 seeds.

## RED SOX

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one hit with the two runs in the third were both unearned while retiring two and walking two more. He went 2-for-3 and took Vicente Camacho's third pitch to deep left for a solo shot that made it 5-2 in the top of the fourth.

Reyes had two doubles and scored three times batting 3-for-4, while Pangelinan, 2-for-4, had two runs and an RBI single in a four-run fifth inning by the Red Sox. Kiana Aldan whacked an RBI triple and touched home plate in the first.

Vicente Camacho took the loss after working for 4.2 innings where he gave up six earned runs

on seven hits, while fanning five and walking one. Dison tossed 1.2 innings in relief limiting the Red Sox to one hit with three strikeouts and one walk.

The Red Sox, who finished third after the elimination round with a 10-2 record, foiled the Taalabwogh Little Falcons' title defense bid after a 9-2 win in last week's semifinals while the Braves crushed the Docomo Ol'Aces, 18-4.

One of the Red Sox's two losses were against the Falcons, who were aiming for a third straight title after beating the Braves in last year's finals, 9-2. They won their first crown in 2013 against Team McDonald's. Their other loss was

against the Comets.

Five players, however, will move on to the Junior League next season led by Aldan, who is one of the three girls on the team, Cruz, Pangelinan, Ada, and Zack Camacho. Rita Agulto and Alexiana Tyquengco were the other female players on the Red Sox.

Aguon, however, is confident that they could defend the title next year with the very animated Shane Mallens leading the squad.

"Shane is Shane. He's been like that cheering up the team. It is always fun to watch him play and he's been sort of the comic of the team. He'll be the veteran and will be back again next year," ended Aguon.

## DANGOL

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4, 2014.

Besides the 400m freestyle mark, Dangol also holds the girls U8 records in the 50m freestyle, 50m backstroke and 50 and 100m butterfly.

Tsunami Saipan coach Hiro Kimura said Dangol dedicated her record swim to the people of Nepal who were hit by a devastating earthquake late last month.

"Her parents are from Kathmandu. Her grandmother's house collapsed due to the earthquake and a lot of their

friends back home are affected by this tragedy. Tsunami Saipan joins Dangol's family and the rest of the CNMI in praying for Nepal," Kimura said.

## 18 get PBTs in 100m freestyle

Meanwhile, 18 swimmers notched personal best times in the 100m freestyle races of NMISF's last meet for the 2014-2015 season.

Participants in the boys 9 to 10 race got the most PBTs (7) with SSC's Jinnosuke Suzuki leading the list with his 1:13.90 (from 1:15.39). Suzuki's teammates Taiyo Akimaru (1:22.36), Rinta-

ro Miyawaki (1:24.12), Cory Lee (1:26.11), and Mark Jainier Chavez (1:54.15) had the same feat along with Tsunami Saipan's Rentaro Suzuki (1:40.68) and Kenta Tomie (1:52.34).

Other swimmers who earned PBTs in the 100m freestyle event were SSC's Andrei Kaith Lynn (1:59.20), Jasmin Frink (1:28.67), Taiga Sato (1:10.43), Rinto Takahashi (1:15.08), Kento Akimaru (1:01.46), Dominic Zedde (1:46.74), and Salofi Welch (1:09.82) and Tsunami Saipan's Kyona Rivera (1:16.49), Kathrine Illahi (1:26.45), and Shaunalyn Bauta (1:45.96).

## Kirk nudges in front of crowded leaderboard at Players

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Kevin Na dropped

his club and placed his hands on his hips as he watched his tee shot, certain that it was going to come up short of the island. Disappointment gave way to an embarrassed smile when he saw the ball settle 6 feet next to the flag.

That one shot summed up a warm and wild afternoon Saturday at The Players Championship.

For most players, nothing was ever as bad as it seemed.

Or as good.

Chris Kirk felt his round slipping away when he missed a short birdie putt and followed that with two straight bogeys to fall out of the top 10. Three consecutive birdies later, he was on his way to a 4-under 68 and a one-shot lead going into the final round.

But that's like having no lead at all. Not with two dozen players—Rory McIlroy, among them—within four shots of the lead.

Na was never too far from the lead, and he was tied when he was on the tee at the par-3 17th and hit slightly behind the ball, took up

more of the earth than he intended and thought to himself, "Oh, boy."

He was waiting for a splash.

Instead, he heard a cheer.

And then he gave what was believed to be the first interview while going to the island green. He chased down Roger Maltbie of NBC, who said to him, "You gave up on it."

"No I didn't," Na said. "I hit it fat. And then I saw it fly and thought, 'You know, this might get there.'"

"Never let them see you sweat, pal," Maltbie replied.

There could be plenty of sweating Sunday in a championship that is up for grabs.

"It seems like half the

tour has a chance to win this thing," McIlroy said after a 70 put him four shots behind.

Tiger Woods was part of the other half. He made the wrong kind of history Saturday by making two double bogeys on par 5s for the first time in his career, leading to a 75 that matched his worst score at the TPC Sawgrass. Woods was 13 shots behind and chose not to share his thoughts on the day.

Na missed the birdie putt on 17, and then he three-putted for a double bogey on No. 18 for a 72 that dropped him from a tie for the lead to a tie for fifth, another example of how volatile in the leaderboard

looked all day.

What made Saturday so unpredictable was neither the Stadium Course nor the variety of shots, rather a leaderboard crammed with so many players that it was hard to keep track who was coming and who was going.

Ben Martin fell out of the lead with a bogey on the 18th for a 68, leaving him one shot behind along with Kevin Kisner (67) and Bill Haas (68). Justin Thomas was tied for

the lead, but that was before the leaders teed off.

The 22-year-old rookie set a Stadium Course record with 10 birdies in his round of 65 and was two behind, along with Sergio Garcia (67), Scott Brown (69), David Heard (70), Jerry Kelly (72) and Na.

Woods at least was in good company.

He was part of an All-Star cast at the bottom of the leaderboard. The last 10 players have combined for 153 wins on the PGA Tour and 27 majors. The top 10 going into Sunday have combined for 23 tour wins and no majors.

Adding to the dynamic is that three players within two shots of the lead are at The Players for the first time.

## MATANSA

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Paire U12 bagged last year's crown.

"We always had two to three players getting ready to attack if the ball lands midfield. On defense, our goalkeeper (Carla Ballesteros) is strong and she has a great support from the rest of our defenders," said Woo, who apologized to Shirley's after one of its players fell hard on the pitch following a collision against one of his players.

Joining Ballesteros on the champion squad are Lyka Sally, Maile Aldrich, Angelica Sally, and Pinyarat Shankweiller, who all scored in the easy win. Completing the team are Leisha Sally, Alisa Gathamgeeg, Aira May Ngalongalo, Sunny Woo, Kiana Marie Rife, Angelica Sally, Nikela Masayos, Jezree-

lyn Bulaklak, Bernadette Horey, Ha'anne Eugenio, Lizann Deleon Guerrero, and Barbara Peteru.

Lyka put Matansa on the board in the 11th minute after outthrusting her defender and kicking the ball, which rolled past Shirley's starting goalie Katherine Magat. Aldrich made it a 2-0 lead, as she scored after a corner kick four minutes before the 30-minute first half wrapped up.

With a 2-0 halftime edge, all Matansa had to do was play defense in the second half, while Shirley's was pressured to go extra aggressive on offense. However, Shirley's did not even come close to getting a clear shot in the second half with either Ballesteros stepping in quickly to pick up the ball or Shirley's players unloading wayward kicks.

One of those wild kicks was

anticipated by Angelica Sally, who later gave Shirley's a double blackeye as after the interception, she made a cross a few steps away from the top left of the penalty box and connected an upper 90 in the 58th minute.

One minute later it was Pinyarat's turn to score, putting the punctuation mark on Matansa's domination of Shirley's with her free kick and the ball going over the hands of goalie Kianna Atalig.

Meanwhile, in the battle for third place, Kanoa U12 slipped past MP United U12.

Brian Lubao and Merrick Toves knocked in two goals apiece for Kanoa with the latter giving his club the insurance goal, 4-2, three minutes before the consolation match ended. Dylan Cho tallied MP United's first two goals, while Akira Kadokura posted the last in the 59th minute.



# Saipan Festival of Runs Awards Banquet

PHOTOS BY JON PEREZ



The male and female Top 6 finishers in the 50K division.



En Feng Wang, left, and Taiyo Nagashima wave to their friends after receiving their medals for winning the men's 15-19 and 20-29 age groups.



Yumiko Kobayashi of Japan, right, is interviewed after receiving her award in the women's 50K course.



Akiyoshi Kamijo, center, receives his plaque from Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands president Gloria Cavanagh, left. Kamijo ruled the men's full marathon event.



Mamiko Berger, left, and Steven Johnson, third left, show off their official invitation to the 2015 Mt. Fuji Marathon.



Saipan runners await the official list of winners.



Japanese duo Masako Nomura, left, and Yoshimi Sato attend the awards banquet of the 2015 Saipan Festival of Runs on April 25 at the Fiesta Resort & Resort Saipan beach side wearing a Mario and Luigi costume of the popular computer game Super Mario Bros.



Charlie Sendin was the men's 30-39 age group winner in the 50K course.



Under-14 age group 10-kilometer winner Jinju Thompson.



Kimiko McKagan gamely poses for photographers after receiving her medal after topping the women's 40-49 age group in the full marathon category.



Rinataro Miyawaki was the 10K men's U14 winner.





**Pierce's buzzer-beater lifts Wiz past Hawks, 103-101**

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

**Student athletes take NMSA spotlight**

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**28** MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015

SAIPAN TRIBUNE



JON PEREZ

Shane Mallens runs toward the team's dugout in celebration after the Bank of Saipan Red Sox defeated the Natibu Sports Association Braves, 10-4, in the finals of the Saipan Little League's Majors division last Saturday at the Miguel Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

## Red Sox stuns top seed Braves

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

**W**hat a difference a year makes for the Bank of Saipan Red Sox. It was only last season when they finished ninth to miss a playoffs berth in the Saipan Little League Majors division.

In a matter of 12 months, call them champions as the Ran-

dall Aguon-managed squad foiled the top-seeded Natibu Sports Association Braves' title bid, 10-4, in last Saturday's finals at the Miguel Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

"It is beyond words what I feel right now. It was a long journey for the kids just to get to the finals. And now, all of their hard work had finally paid off," said a visibly wet Aguon, after being given a traditional water shower following their upset win.

Zack Camacho limited the Braves to one-hit with both of the runs unearned in the bottom of the

sixth while striking out five and walking two in 2.2 innings pitched in relief.

Camacho, who came in the bottom of the fourth with Victor Joel Igitol up to bat, and the Red Sox had some anxious moments in the sixth where the Braves attempted to make a comeback.

Steven Kileleman, who walked and stole second base, scored on an error by second baseman Joven Reyes. He did this with two outs, after Camacho forced Josenio Ray Alvarez to an infield fly then struck out Igitol.

Antonio Norita reached safely on first base after another Reyes error, moved to third on an infield single by Heath Quinton Camacho, and scored on a Devon Pangelinan error.

Camacho, however, settled down after that and the Red Sox, led by third baseman Shane Mallens, celebrated after forcing Anthony to a pop fly that was caught by first baseman Winfield Ada.

Orren Cruz tossed 4.1 innings in the start where he held the Braves to

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## Dangol, Yanai set swim marks

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Two Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan members had record-breaking swims in the 2014-2015 Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation Championships held early this month at the Kan Pacific

Swimming Pool.

Ryuto Yanai was the first one to earn an age group mark in the boys 11 to 12 division after posting 2:52.50 in the 200m butterfly swim. He shattered the record of his oldest brother, Kaito, who registered 3:02.10



on April 16, 2011. Ryuto made it to the 11 to 12 age group record list for the first time, joining the company of his brother, fellow Tsunami Saipan swimmer Kensuke Kimura, and Saipan Swim Club's Joshua Taitano.

In the girls U8 division, Ashley Dangol now owns five age group marks after adding the 400m freestyle record to her collection. Dangol completed the 400m freestyle race in this month's competition in 5:59.53 to surpass the record of Tsunami Saipan teammate Nanaka Watanabe, who clocked in at 6:15:54 on Oct.

**See DANGOL on Page 26**

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tsunami Saipan's Ashley Dangol cools down after completing a race in the 2014-2015 Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation Championships held early this month at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.



## Matansa gets FA Challenge Cup

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

It's payback time for Matansa Football Club's girls U15 team, as it shut out Shirley's, 4-0, in the finale of the 2015 FA Boys and Girls Challenge Cup last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Matansa lost the 2015 spring championships to Shirley's girls U15 crew, which also foiled the former's bid for a third straight season title. When the rivals met anew in the FA Cup finals last weekend, Matansa coach Ho Jin Woo used that loss to motivate his players.

"We've been dominating the girls U15 league for the last two years, winning three of the four championships at stake. Then we lost this spring to Shirley's.

It was a tough loss and a very close one, so I asked the girls, 'are we going to lose again the FA Cup?'" Woo said.

"They answered 'no.' I challenged them to win the FA Cup and they responded to the challenge," the Matansa mentor said.

Matansa's potent offense cou-

pled with its relentless defense gave the club its second FA Cup. It's U12 co-ed crew won the same tournament in 2012,

while MP United U12 prevailed twice (2011 and 2013), and

**See MATANSA on Page 26**



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Matansa FC's Angelica Sally, left, uses her body to receive the ball, while Shirley's FC's De Jana Muna stays close on defense during the second half of their title game in the 2015 FA Boys and Girls Challenge Cup last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.